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1876.

*A CENTENNIAL MEMORIAL.*

HISTORICAL SKETCH

— OF —

**K**utztown and **M**axatawny,

*Berks County, Penn'a.*

PREPARED BY

**JOHN S. ERMENROUT, A. M.,**

PROFESSOR IN KEYSTONE NORMAL SCHOOL.

KUTZTOWN, PA. :

FRICK & GEHRING'S STEAM JOB PRINT.

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## AN INTRODUCTORY WORD.

In obedience to the wishes of the "Kutztown Centennial Association," for the celebration of July 4, 1876, this sketch was prepared by the Chairman of the Historical Committee. For some of the most important facts in it, he is indebted to J. Daniel Rupp's "Collection of Thirty Thousand Names, &c.," and "History of Berks and Lebanon Counties;" and to Dr. Harbaugh's "Fathers of the Reformed Church." In his efforts to gather in one the traditions of this section of Berks, and in his examination of local archives and documents, he was greatly assisted by John Humbert, Esq., whose knowledge of the past, and discriminating judgment, were invaluable aids. He is also under special obligations to S. A. Baer, Superintendent of Common Schools of Berks County, the Hon. H. H. Schwartz, James Marx, Esq., Fayette Schœdler, the Rev. J. S. Herman, Reuben Bast, Jonas Hoch, Conrad Gehring, A. J. Fogel, Jno. G. Wink, Jno. Kemp, Esq., Jon. Biehl, and others.

The critic who may discern in this sketch faults in style and errors in fact, will bear in mind that the time allotted for its preparation was quite too limited for a more thorough and extensive investigation of the subject.

It is hardly necessary to add that, as far as possible, persons and things in this sketch are called by the names under which they are generally known.

J. S. E.

KEYSTONE NORMAL SCHOOL, July 3, 1876.

# I. GENERAL HISTORY.

## I.—FROM EARLIEST PERIOD TO 1779.

Whilst the Indians were still undisputed owners of the soil of Pennsylvania, there took place in Europe a series of events that induced many of its inhabitants to leave their native countries, and seek a new home in the virgin forests of America. In 1598, Henry IV., King of France, obeying the dictates of a sound judgment and the advice of his ministers, issued the Edict of Nantes, which secured religious freedom to the Huguenots. In 1685, Louis XIV., King of France, yielding to the dictates of a disordered judgment and the advice of his ministers, revoked this Edict, and thus occasioned the persecution of many of his most industrious subjects. In 1688 a French army of 100,000 men invaded the Palatinate, and, in 1693, Heidelberg became a heap of blackened ruins. In other parts of Europe also there reigned a spirit of political and religious persecution. The Kings of the earth had not yet learned that it belonged not to their office to meddle in religious things, that conscience could not be forced, and that persecution was incompatible with the doctrines of Christianity.

Meanwhile, in England took place another and different series of events that ended in the preparation of an asylum for the oppressed of every clime and creed. From Charles II., March 4, 1681, as payment for 16,000 pounds due his father, William Penn, a member of the Society of Friends, had granted him letters patent for a tract of land in America, "lying north of Maryland, on the east, bounded by Delaware river; on the west, limited as Maryland; and northward, to extend as far as plantable." William, while yet a young man, had joined the Friends, and brought down upon himself the wrath of the Established Church in England. His own experience had thus taught him the bitterness of persecution, and prepared him to announce, as the great principle of his conduct in the New World "freedom in matters of religion to all who acknowledged a belief in Almighty God." As Lord Baltimore in Maryland, and Roger Williams in Rhode Island, so did Penn proclaim religious liberty in Pennsylvania.

Now began the great movement to America from France, Germany, and Switzerland.

From 1682—1776 Penn's colony formed the central point of emigration. Before 1702, however, there arrived not more than two hundred families. These settled in Germantown. Among the earliest were Henry Fry, who came over in 1680, two years before William Penn himself, and Francis Daniel Pastorius and family, together with ten Germans and one English woman. From all accounts we must believe that this Pastorius was a thoroughly learned man. In 1688 he wrote in Latin an "Address to Posterity." Our American poet, Whittier, has given us an English translation in the following language :—

"Hail to posterity!  
Hail, future men of Germanopolis!  
Let the young generations yet to be  
Look kindly upon this.  
Think how your fathers left their native land—  
Dear German—land! O, sacred hearths and homes!  
And where the wild beast roams,  
In patience planned  
New forest homes beyond the mighty sea.  
The undisturbed and free  
To live as brothers of one family.  
What pains and cares befell,  
What trials and what fears,  
Remember, and wherein we have done well  
Follow our footsteps, men of coming years!  
Where we have failed to do  
Aright, or wisely live,  
Be warned by us, the better way pursue,  
And, knowing we were human, even as you,  
Pity us and forgive!  
Farewell, Posterity!  
Farewell, dear Germany!  
Forevermore farewell!"

From 1702—1727 was the great epoch of German emigration. During this period upwards of 50,000 persons left their homes for the New World. Queen Anne, of England, wishing to people her colonies, and unwilling to allow her own subjects to leave, encouraged the oppressed Germans to pitch their tents in the forests of America. On a special invitation from this Queen, in 1708 and 1709, thirty-three thousand left the beautiful Rhine for London. From this city many of them were transported across the ocean; some settled in New York, others, in North Carolina, but most of them in Pennsylvania.

As our forefathers failed to appreciate the importance of preserving papers and documents in which were recorded the events of their day, the antiquarian can but mourn over their loss, while he tries to give a permanent place to the few facts that have survived the ravages of time.



Two things are quite certain : bears and Indians were, for a long period, in Berks County, sole monarchs of all they surveyed. From a letter dated at Reading, Sept. 22, 1754, to a gentleman in Philadelphia, we learn that the former "were never half so numerous; you can scarce go a mile without seeing one; several of them have been killed near this town lately;" while in this State, at the arrival of Penn, were ten native tribes of Indians, known by the name of Leni Lenape or Delawares. It is said that the last of the Delaware died in Chester Co., Pa., in the person of 'old Indian Hannah,' in 1803."

The outbreak of the French and Indian war in 1754, put an end to the friendly dispositions of the Indians. From this time onward to 1764, and particularly from Braddock's defeat in 1755, owing to the machinations of the French, the Indians in our section of the State turned against the settlers, and revelled in massacres and conflagrations. In a letter to Governor Morris, written toward the close of 1755, Conrad Weiser, who was then commander of the forces in Berks, says, "This country is in a dismal condition. It can't hold out long—consternation, poverty, confusion everywhere." From a letter written by Valentine Probst, Feb. 15, 1756, of Albany township, to Jacob Levan, Esq., of Maxatawny, we learn that Albany was dreadfully harassed by the Indians, and that several murders had just been committed. In a letter to James Read and Jonas Seely, of Reading, Jacob Levan says, "When I got ready to go with neighbors from Maxatawny, to see what damage was done in Albany, three men, that had seen the shocking affair, came and told me that eleven were killed, eight of them burnt, and the other three found dead out of the five." From these few but striking facts we can easily picture to ourselves the unhappy situation of this section of the county, and understand why, in going to church, they went with a pistol in one hand, and a musket in the other. It may be interesting also to know that, as tradition has it, in the woods just back of David Sharadin's farm in Maxatawny, there was an Indian burial place.

Prior to 1734, in Maxatawny, lived the following persons who owned land and paid quit-rents:—

Jacob Hottenstein,	Johannes Siegfried,
Peter Andreas,	Nicholas Kutz,
Jacob Levan,	Abraham Zimmerman
Jacob Kemp,	Jost. Hen. Sassaman,
Wilhelm Gross,	Andreas Fischer,
Casper Wink,	Heinrich Hartman,
Christian Mahnenschmidt,	Michael Mueller,
Jacob Hill,	Hans Kleimer,
Isaac Leonard,	Heinrich Schade,
Peter Trexler,	Jeremiah Trexler,
Hans Hage,	Bastian Ferr.

This township was settled very soon after the year 1732. A few years after the erection of Berks county (1752), it numbered about

one hundred taxables, principally Germans. Among them we find such names as Sassamanhausen, Zimmerman, Fisher, Levan, Wink, Kemp, Hottenstein, Schäffer, Christ, Bieber, Bost, Sharadin, DeLong, Christman, Bensinger, Esser, Wanner, Gross, and many others.

As several families by name of DeTurk, now reside in Maxatawny, it may be interesting to know, that their forefathers originally settled in Esopus, New York, and that, prior to 1712, they emigrated to Oley township, Berks Co., Pa.

During this the earliest period, as we glean from the earliest records, the most prominent public men were the Levans, the Zimmermans, the Gehrs, the Groseups, and the Hottensteins.

By Act of May 22, 1722, it was ordered that a competent number of persons shall be commissioned by the Governor, to be Justices of the County courts during good behavior. From 1752—1760 Jacob Levan was one of these Judges. This name is so marked down in the earliest documents. The question is, was Jacob Levan of Maxatawny this particular person? We answer affirmatively; and for the following reasons. First of all, we have letters addressed to him as Esquire; and it seems that, in those early days, Esquire and Judge were synonymous terms. In the second place, we have letters from him to Jonas Seely, of Reading, who was certainly one of the Judges of the County court. These two gentlemen must have been close friends; and it is reasonable to infer that their intimacy sprang to a great extent from the fact that, as brother Judges, they were frequently brought together as companions.

Of the Provincial Committee for Pennsylvania, held in Philadelphia, Jan. 23, 1775, Sebastian Levan was a member.

From 1767—1771 Sebastian Zimmerman was one of the Judges; and again, from 1778—1784.

But the man who stood forth most prominently before the public eye, was Baltzer Gehr. From 1776—1784, he was a Judge; in 1786, also from 1792—1799, a member of the Assembly; in 1782, both Judge and Assemblyman; and a member of the Provincial Committee, held in Philadelphia, Jan. 23, 1775. Under the Constitution of 1776, there was a Council of Censors, the duty of which was to revise the Executive and Legislative branches of Government, and generally inquire whether the Constitution had been preserved inviolate. Of this he was a member; convened at Philadelphia, Nov. 10, 1783; also, of the Convention to frame the Constitution of Pennsylvania, which met in Philadelphia, Nov. 24, 1789, and closed its sessions Feb. 5, 1790.

From 1785—1787 Paul Groseup, who was an expert in penmanship, was a Judge; and again, from 1793—98; also, a member of the Convention, in 1790, to frame the Constitution of Pennsylvania; and, in 1800 one of the Auditors of the County.

During this period also stood high in public esteem the Hottenstein

family. From the venerable William Hottenstein,—still living in Maxatawny, and now eighty-five years old, who, as we shall see, occupied a seat in the Legislature,—we learn that his forefathers were natives of Austria, Europe. From thence they went to Bavaria, in 1727 emigrated to America, settled first in Oley, and before 1730 came to Maxatawny. Here they leased from the original proprietors upwards of five hundred acres of land. In the Fatherland they ranked among the nobility. Jacob Hottenstein lies buried on the farm of William Hottenstein.

## 2.—FROM 1779 TO 1815.

Whilst these men were representing this section of the county before the public eye, the interests and progress of the people required that some definite measures be taken for the building up of a community separate from the township as such. Accordingly, in 1779, was laid out by George Kutz a town, which from him received the name of Kutztown. It was originally a tract containing one hundred and thirty acres of land, and purchased by him, in 1755, from Jacob Wentz and his wife Elizabeth. This tract was at first divided in to 108 inlots and 105 outlots. On these were reserved certain ground-rents. At a later date was added that part of the town which, beginning at Baldy's lane, stretches in a nearly southerly direction to what is now known as the residence of Jonathan Biehl. As this was not encumbered with any reserved rents, it was called Freetown.

The first house built in Kutztown was a one-story log building. It stood at no great distance from the Saucony creek, where now stands the elegant mansion of Daniel Sharadin. The first mill in Maxatawny did its grinding on the very spot where now a mill, belonging to Charles Levan, and located near Eagle Point, does the same work; and the first store displayed its silks and satins, its molasses and sugar, under the supervision of Jacob Herman,—the same Herman, no doubt, who, from 1789—1801, was Lutheran Trustee of the Union congregation. It is more than probable, indeed, we may say, quite certain, that the first tavern in Maxatawny was that which is now known as Kemp's. Mr. George Kemp (born 1749,) the grandfather of the living John Kemp, kept public house there for fifty-two years, and the latter, for forty-three years. The former received his commission as Esquire from Gov. Thos. McKean (1800), and served in this capacity thirty-four years; and the latter filled the same honorable position for twenty years. Our esteemed townsman, Joshua Bieber, tells us that his grandfather John Bieber, helped to clear away the brush and fell the scrub oak that, from the Saucony creek upward, resisted the enterprise of our fathers in their attempts to lay the foundations of a future borough.

Isolated to a great degree, as the people were, from the springs of

public energy and the onward current of things in cities and the larger towns, it is not surprising that, for some years, they made no very remarkable progress in higher culture and general improvement, but preferred to cultivate on their blooming farms the means that give bone and sinew to a country, and, in their quiet homes, those domestic virtues that not only adorn a land, but are also indispensable to its perpetuity and happiness. Yet, in the face of many untoward circumstances, the fermenting enterprise of the Kutztowners found a vent in the erection of the village into a Borough.

### 3. —FROM 1815 TO 1865

This took place by an Act of Assembly, March 1, 1815. The persons named as incorporators were Henry Heist and Jacob Levan. As the Minutes can always be consulted by the curious, it is not necessary to mention any officers other than those of the year 1815. These were: Town Council, Jacob Levan, Esq., President, Moth Wilson, Dewalt Wink, Peter Gift, George Pfister, Jonathan Grim, and John Kutz; Jacob Levan, (merchant) Treasurer; James Scull, Town Clerk; Solomon Kutz, Collector; Jacob Humbert and George Breyfogel, Supervisors; George Bieber and Thos. Lightfoot, Regulators; Jacob Graff, High Constable.

It was a great pity that, even now with the advantages of a borough, the laudable ambition of the people was continually checked by the force of surrounding circumstances. Our esteemed friend, Fayette Schoedler informs us that, in 1817, from the stone house next to Baldy's lane, clear out to the southern limits of the town, and far beyond, nothing but woodland greeted the eye of the traveler; whilst the people not unfrequently gathered in their strength to assist some luckless horses in dragging out of the deep mud the farmer's wagon and the laborer's cart. In Freetown, on that side of the street where now stands the new erected mansion of J. D. Wanner, Esq., down to 1830, there were built three houses only, those of Messrs Baldy-Sander, and Strasser,—a tract of land which is now beautified by private residences of every description, whilst farther out stand the residences of Jonathan Biehl, William Kutz, David Sharadin, the splendid houses of John Wink, and Col. Thos. D. Pfister, and, towering above them all the Keystone Normal School, whose cupola, during a crisp winter's night, seems almost a globe of crystal suspended in midair. In 1800 was built the stone house, now known as Siegfried's, by Adam Kutz, who owned the land, on both sides of the street, from Baldy's lane to where now lives William Hein. In Kutztown, in 1817, were kept taverns by Geo. Pfister, Daniel Levan, Isaac Levan and Isaac Levan.

Where Isaac Hottenstein now resides, lived in 1823–24, Michael Hendl, whose swinging sign, with Andrew Jackson emblazoned on it,

told the weary traveler, as he trudged or rode up the street, that within he could find in winter refreshments to warm his freezing body, and in summer to abate the burning heat; while farther up where Edward Dikeman now drives the tobacco trade, the "Full Moon" shed his mellow beams on the belated wanderer, and invited him in to Apple Jack and pure Old Rye. His Landlord, David Moyer, it is said, astonished the natives by the erection of a clover mill which was operated by ox power.

Let us now pass by the uninteresting events of a few years, and take our point of view from 1835.

In Maxatawny, in 1835, there were three hundred sixty four taxables, and in Kutztown, one hundred fifty-nine. These latter lived in one hundred five houses, and represented eight hundred souls. In the town were four stores, five taverns, three Esquires, one German and two English schools, and one church. It owned five hundred fifty acres of outlots, whilst the borough proper occupied twenty five acres. On the three hundred seventy acres of the former grew corn, potatoes, flax, hay, &c.; and one hundred seventy two acres yielded eight thousand two shocks of grain, of which five thousand five hundred were wheat. Computing these (8002) at five and a half bushels to the hundred sheaves, they thrashed four thousand four hundred bushels, or twenty five and a half bushels to the acre. If now we suppose that each of the eight hundred inhabitants needed for living five bushels, it follows that, in 1835, the town owned four hundred bushels of grain more than it consumed. The remaining three hundred seventy eight acres produced in more than plenty the other necessities of life, while the land within the borough proper poured into the lap of its owners a rich supply of the delicacies of each returning season.

During the same year, wheat commanded \$1.20, per bushel; rye, 80; corn, 75; oats, 35; potatoes, 50; rye whiskey, 35 per gallon; apple jack, 35; hams, 11 per pound; pork, 10; beef, 6; firkin butter, 11; hickory wood, 3.00; oak 2.25; coal, 5.00; eggs, 8 cts. per dozen.

For the year ending March 31, 1835, the Post Office of Kutztown paid over to the Department at Washington, \$153.68, and of Rothrocksville, \$17.12. It must not be forgotten, however, that many citizens of Maxatawny made use of the Postal facilities of the borough.

From April 17, 1835 to April 15, 1836, the income and expenses of the town were each \$381.37½. During this time Joseph Heist was Treasurer, William Heidenrich, President of Council, and George Bieber Secretary.

These facts certainly show that the people were not oppressed by taxation, and that they had in plenty the necessities and luxuries of life. Yet, cut off, as they were, from the great centres of public influence, their energies were cramped, cabined, and confined. In order to enjoy the reading of the "Neutralist" the citizens of the vi-

einity were forced to organize societies, the object of which was to make out the deficiencies of their Postal accommodations. Thus, at a meeting of its subscribers in Rockland, August 1, 1835, they bound themselves, each in his turn, under a penalty of fifty cents, to bring the paper from the printing office every Wednesday, and deliver it on Thursday morning at the store of Thomas Oyster. At first, three times a week, the rumbling wheels of the stage enlivened the quiet air of the town, and drew out of their houses men, women and children to gaze in wonder at the skillful Jehu, who, as he circled his whip in the air and applied it vigorously to the haunches of his Rosinantes, sent them flying to the popular hotel of our old friend, David Fister. On Feb. 1, 1837, the proprietors of the Reading and Elston line, —David Fister, Jacob Graff, and Chas. Seagreaves, —announced that, from this time onward, Sundays excepted, they would run a daily coach between these two places. There was also a line run from Kutztown, by way of Boyertown, to Norristown. This was under the control of Samuel Hartranft, father of Governor John Hartranft, who, in his youth, sometimes acted the driver on this route.

At quite an early period, before the Philadelphia and Reading railroad was completed, was held in the borough a meeting to consider the propriety of building a railway from Hamburg, via Kutztown, to Pottsgrove, to connect with the Reading and Norristown road. It is said that the killing of a teamster, near Pennsburg, Montgomery Co., by the engineer of the proposed company, put an end to the project.

On Feb. 25, 1837, at the hotel of David Fister, was held a large meeting to urge on the plan for building a road from Hamburg, via Kutztown, to Allentown. There were passed resolutions, calling upon the Legislature to pass an Act already in its hands "to empower the Governor to incorporate the Hamburg and Allentown Railroad company." Nothing came of this effort.

But, though geographically separated from the leading centres of action, the people were kept in communication with the world at large by means of newspapers. To William Harmony belongs the honor of having published the first paper in Kutztown, in the German language. On the 12th of June, 1833, was issued the first number of the "Neutralist," in German, by Henry Hawrecht, a native of Berlin, Prussia, and former Editor of the Reading "Adler," and by Chas. Wink, of Kutztown, who served as apprentice in the "Adler" office. Its motto was, "Jedem das Seine." Having discontinued this paper in the spring of 1837, both these gentlemen emigrated to Ohio; but, returning to Kutztown, in 1841, they issued the first number of the "Geist der Zeit," on June 1st of the same year. In the same office was also printed "Der Hirt," which was established and edited by Rev. J. S. Hermin. It numbered twenty-two

hundred subscribers. Its first issue dates from June 30, 1854, and its last from June 20, 1856. On the death of Mr. Hawrecht, 1859, his widow, Emily, continued the "Geist der Zeit" up to 1863. Mr. Wm. Rosenthal now became owner of the office and its material.

As in the earliest period of their history, so now, Kutztown and Maxatawny continued to illustrate the political annals of both county and State. The following gentlemen filled seats in the Assembly:—David Hottenstein, 1816, '22, '23, '25, '27; G. U. Odenheimer, 1825; John Wanner, 1831, '32; Peter Klein, jr., 1834; William Hottenstein, 1835, '36; Samuel Fegely, 1837, '38, '39, '48, '49, '57; Dan. B. Kutz, 1840, '41; Alfred J. Herman, 1844; Jacob Graff 1841. Samuel Fegely was Senator from 1841—1846. County offices were filled by the following:—Clerk of O. C. Mr. J. M. Hyneman, 1810—1815 and Co. Surveyor, 1816—1822; Commissioner, George Kemp, 1822—24; Director, John Wanner, 1824, Commissioner, 1826, 27; Auditor, G. U. Odenheimer, 1822—24; Director, Dan. K. Hottenstein, 1825, '26, and Commissioner, 1831—33; Director, David Deysher, 1830—32; Commissioner, David Kutz, 1838—40; Clerk of O. C. Jas. Donagan, 1840—42; Co. Surveyor, J. Dan. Wanner, 1841—47; Associate Judge Wm. Heydenreich, 1852—56; Clerk of O. C., Chas. J. Wink, 1852—54; Commissioner, Benj. Kutz, 1853—55; Mercantile Appraiser, Isaac S. Hottenstein, 1855; Prothonotary, David Fister, 1858—1861.

Whilst men were busy in laying plans for political promotions, impartial death, which knocks at the door of both Cottager and King, ever and anon put in his sickle for a harvest. For the accommodation of the dead, Hope cemetery was incorporated Sept. 17, 1861, and consecrated June 22, 1862. Its present officers are Geo. J. Kutz, President; John Humbert, Secretary; Charles Kutz, Treasurer. It is managed by a board of Trustees, composed of nine members. In it have been buried down to the present time one hundred and eighty-eight bodies. The first burial was that of John D. Bieber, son of Captain Bieber, who died Dec. 30, 1861, aged 51 years, 5 mos., and 12 days.

On June 15, and 16, 1861, Fairview cemetery was consecrated. Rev. Dr. Kessler, of Allentown, and Rev. Mr. Yeager, of Greenwich, preached on Saturday; Revs. Dubbs, of Lehigh, and Phillips, of Easton, on Sunday; and Rev. J. S. Herman performed the consecratory ceremonies. On April 12, 1862, it was organized.

Its present officers are William Wanner, President, Egidius Butz, Treasurer, and Jonas Hoch, Secretary. In it now repose near three hundred bodies. The first funeral was that of Isadore, son of William and Esther Weiser, aged seven years, one month and three days.

Both cemeteries are independent of ecclesiastical control, and are managed by Associations.

In October, 1842, was instituted in Kutztown the Brotherly Love Lodge, No. 77, of the Order of Odd Fellows. Its present officers are

Dan. F. Wagner, N. G.; Jeremiah Scherer, V. G.; I. S. Hottenstein, Treasurer. Jon. Biehl, Secretary, and D. S. Kutz, Assist. Secretary.

On March 22, 1858, were organized the American Mechanics, Sr., who numbered before the Civil war one hundred and twenty members.

During the first week of October, 1836, Kutztown and Maxatawny were favoured with visits from some of the great men of the country, — Governor Joseph Ritner and his Secretary of State, Thos. H. Burrowes, the Hon. H. A. Muhlenberg and General William Henry Harrison, who was at that time a candidate for the Presidency of the United States.

It was during this period that certain social amusements which are now buried in the tomb of the Capulets, reached their richest bloom. These were frolics, fairs, and battalions. From some advertisements now in our hands, our readers can gain a clear insight into their nature and influence.

As an example of the "frolic", we subjoin the following announcement taken from the "Neutralist" of Dec. 28, 1836:—

#### GLAENZENDE FROLICK.

Am Freytag, den 6ten naechsten Januar soll am Hause des Unterschriebenen, in Richmond Township, Berks Co., Pa., eine Frollick gehalten werden, die an Glantz und Pracht alles bieten wird, was im Jahr 1837 an dieser Art von Festlichkeit und Lustbarkeit hervorgebracht werden kann.—Die schoensten Maedchen im Cauntty werden dieses Tanzvergnuegen mit ihrer Gegenwart beehren; fuer die besten Getraenke ist gesorgt, und somit werden alle Freunde unschuldigen Vergnuegens eingeladen beizuwohnen.

☞ N. B. Die Kutztauner Musik Gesellschaft wird bei dieser Festlichkeit zugegen sein.

SAMUEL JUNKEN.

As an example of Fairs in 1836:—

#### GLAENZENDE FAIR IN DER STADT KUTZTAUN.

Am Freytag und Samstag, den 2ten und 3ten naechsten September, wird in der Stadt Kutztaun eine glaezende Fair gehalten werden. Unter den vielen ansiehenden Gegenstaenden, welche dieses glaezende Fest zieren werden, brauchen wir nur anzufuehren, dass ein ganzes Regiment Freiwilliger zur Parade ausruecken werden—Cavallarie und Infanterie, und dass verschiedenartige militaerische Manoever ausgefuehrt werden sollen. Dir Wirthe haben sich nebenbei mit den besten Getraenken versehen; stark und schwach, vom besten Braendy bis aufs klare Wasser, so dass auch Temperenz Leute accommodirt werden koennen—wie auch mit den besten Speisen fuer Van Buren und Harrison Leute—wie auch mit Platz fuer 8000 Mann, denn man erwartet, dass diese Fair ungewoehnlich zahlreich besucht werden wird. Fuer gute Fiddler ist ebenfalls gesorgt worden. Dass auch Pferd Wettrennen stattfinden werden, versteht sich von selbst. Namentlich wird das beruehmte Virginien Pferd Bucephalus gegen das vollbluetige importirte Pferd Rosinante springen. Auch werden einige kleine Ballons in die Hoehe gelassen werden.



P. S.—Es wird erwartet, dass die Laedies vom Lande sich ein wenig schoen aufdressen werden—indem die Kutztauner Laedies sich von Kopf zum Fuss mit den praechtigsten neuen Stoffen aus unsern Stohren versehen haben.

Kutztaun, August 17, 1836.

At first the battalions and the militia trainings were one and the same thing. When the latter were by law abolished, the festivities originally connected with them were continued under the name of the former. These were held in the month of May, the Fairs in September, and the Frolics, whenever the humor of the people and the wishes of landlords required them. About thirty years ago Fairs died out. These became so unpopular that it sometimes happened that no sufficient notice of the time of their holding was given. As a result of this, the lovers of fun who lived in the remoter parts of the county, occasionally made their appearance in Kutztown a day too late. From this fact originated the well-known phrase "a day after the fair."

What during the Restoration in England May-poles and bear-baiting were to the English, and, in modern times, prize fighting, fairs and battalions were, during this period, to the people of this section of the county. As it is foolish to suppose that the masses can be angels, and as all classes of society, whether rude or refined, must have some recreation, whilst we rejoice over the burial of frolics and such like things, we have no sympathy with that Pharisaic spirit which makes no allowance for the needs of men, and visits with unsparing severity the follies of weak, uncultured human nature.

The "Battalion" survived the period now under consideration. It had a tough life. How it at last succumbed to the progress of culture and refinement, will appear in what can justly be called the Blooming Period of our history.

#### 4.—FROM 1865 TO 1876.

Against it was sounded the first clear note of opposition by the Trustees of the Keystone State Normal School, which was begun in August, 1865. At a meeting held by them May 18, 1866, were passed sundry resolutions, which declared that the "Battalion," by reason of the abuses and evils connected with it, had outlived its usefulness, and that, as so great an Institution as the Normal School had now been established in our midst, it was the duty of the citizens to frown upon everything that tended to cast a stain on the character of the borough and its vicinity. This protest did not immediately ripen into fruit, but, sustained as it was by the people generally, it went forth, and in time did its appointed work. As a local incident, it may be mentioned that some persons, who had at heart the prosperity of the school and the community, but were influenced by an indiscreet zeal, circulated a placard through the surrounding coun-

try, in which it was announced that the "Battalion" advertised for 1866, had been indefinitely postponed. Gradually, but surely, the educational influence of the Normal, with its Commencements and Literary anniversaries, wore away the tendency to low amusements, and created a love for such as, while they satisfied the desire for innocent recreations, tended to minister to our nobler nature. The last battalion was held May 31, 1873.

In the effort now being made to raise the community to a higher point of culture, the Keystone Agricultural and Horticultural Society lent its powerful aid. It was chartered in 1870, and owns sixteen acres of land, which, together with the buildings and improvements, cost not far from fifteen thousand dollars. The first officers were Elijah DeTurk, President; Jno. R. Gonser, Secretary; L. K. Hottenstein, Treasurer; and for 1876, George Kutz, President; Jeff. C. Hoch, Secretary; A. J. Fogel, Secretary; Dr. J. S. Trexler, Corresponding Secretary; Hon. H. H. Schwartz, Attorney. In October, 1873, Horace Greeley, then the Democratic candidate for the Presidency of the United States, visited Kutztown, and delivered two addresses, one before the Society, and the other before the students of the Normal. For 1874, the orator, during the Agricultural exhibition, was Alexander Ramsey, United States Senator from Minnesota, and for 1875, Judge Humphreys, of Washington, D. C.

The tendency toward public and social improvement was now also greatly aided by the branch railroad which connects Kutztown, by way of Topton, with the chief centres of American civilization. Failing in their plans to have the East Pennsylvania Railroad pass through the borough, the people bent their energies upon the completion of what once bore the name of the Allentown and Auburn Rail Road, but is now known as the Allentown Rail Road. To this had been subscribed by Kutztown and vicinity more than \$20,000. Of its stock our esteemed friend Lewis K. Hottenstein, one of our most worthy and influential citizens, held \$5000.00. Work was commenced on it in 1857, but the financial panic that ensued, put a stop to the project. Meanwhile the Philadelphia and Reading R. R. company obtained control of the stock. In 1868 our citizens, in public meeting assembled, drew up a petition, in which they requested the company to complete the road from Topton to Kutztown. Their petition met with a generous response. On June 9, 1869, work was begun. Mr. Fayette Schoedler had the honor of digging up the first earth. Under the direction of Engineer G. W. Hoover, Conductor, Geo. Snodgrass, and Baggage Master, Theo. G. Faber, was run the first train on Jan. 15, 1870. The Agent of the Company in Kutztown, is Mr. Lewis Fisher. So well and faithfully have these officers discharged their duties that the company has recognized their worth by continuing them in their positions down to the present time.

The elegant Depot which adorns the grounds of the Station was built in 1859—70.

Over this road now run seven daily trains from the town and the same number to it; (on Sundays, but two.)

On the 10th of February, 1873, the Telegraph lent its wings to the enterprise of the borough. From its first establishment to the present time, Calvin Fister has been its efficient operator.

Newspapers also were now in their zenith. On Feb. 3, 1870, appeared in German the first number of the Kutztown "Journal." It was published by Isaac F. Christ, originally of Greenwich twp., Berks Co., Pa.; edited and managed by Chas. Kolbe, of Doylestown, Bucks Co., Pa; in size twenty-four by thirty-six. The latter gentleman was succeeded by Mr Geiz, of Allentown, who, in turn, gave way to F. Konietzko, of Reading. On Nov. 4, 1871, under the same proprietor, Mr. Conrad Gehring, of Reading, assumed the editorial and mechanical control of the paper. In the same office, in the following spring, was published in English the "National Educator." Under the editorship of Prof. A. R. Horne, it advocated the interests of our Common schools, and still continues to be one of its best champions. At this time it appeared once a month; in size sixteen by twenty-four. Leaving in the spring of 1873, Conrad Gehring became publisher of the "Volksfreund," in Middleburg, Snyder Co., Pa. Mr. Emil Meister succeeded him as editor of the "Journal." Now it was that Isaac F. Christ started an English paper, "The National Enterprise", with J. H. Lindeman as editor; but not meeting with sufficient patronage, consolidated it with the "National Educator" which had for some time been published as a weekly. Invited by Mr. Christ to return to his former position, in Nov. 1873, Mr. Gehring again became editor and manager. In May, 1874, with the former as publisher and the latter as editor was issued a German and English paper,—the "American Patriot"; in size, twenty-four by thirty-six. In March 1875, Mr. Gehring, in connection with A. B. Urick, of Lebanon Co., Pa., purchased the establishment of Mr. Christ, and on April 1, 1875, took possession of it as a firm, under the name of Urick & Gehring. During September of the same year, steam power was introduced. The business of these enterprising gentlemen increased so rapidly that it soon became necessary to remove their quarters to the second floor of the large building which Mr. D. B. Snyder had erected on Main street. With the opening of the Centennial year, Messrs. Urick and Gehring surprised their patrons with the Journal and Patriot, each of them enlarged to the size of twenty-eight by forty-two.

The JOURNAL numbers 1600 subscribers; the PATRIOT, 400—500; the EDUCATOR, 8—900. Five presses do the work of the office.

From what has been said it may easily be inferred that, in order

to meet the demands that grew out of the rapid growth of the borough and its vicinity, banks soon became a necessity.

Already in 1869 was established the Kutztown Savings Bank, with J. H. Fogel as President, and Dr. Hottenstein as Cashier. Its present officers are Daniel Dietrich, President, W. C. Dietrich, Cashier.

The Peabody Savings Bank was organized in 1870. Present officers: Jno. Lichtenwalner, President, and J. D. Wanner, Esq., Cashier.

The national bank of Kutztown was chartered by the Government of the United States in 1871. Its authorized Capital is \$60,000.00, with the privilege of \$200,000.00. Present officers, Jno. H. Fogel, President, and Thos. D. Fister, Cashier. It was chiefly through the intelligent zeal and energy of the latter gentleman that this bank was located in our borough. From the Report, dated May 12, 1876, we learn that its resources and liabilities are each \$151,161.81.

The Postal facilities of the town are equal to the demands and necessities of the hour. Two daily mails leave for the West, and two daily for the East; and the same number return. For the year 1875 the Borough postoffice paid over to the Department at Washington, \$644.05, and for the first quarter of 1876, \$155.46.

In February, 1863, the market prices in Kutztown were: red wheat 1.50; white, 1.56; rye, .87; new corn, .78; stove coal, 5.00; nut, 3.50; butter, .18; eggs, 14; potatoes, .50; ham, .6; shoulders and flitch, .6; hickory wood, 3.00, and oak, 2.50.

For the month of June, 1876, they were: salt, per bushel, .60; sack 1.45; eggs, dozen, .14; butter, pound, .18; lard, 16; ham, 15; tallow, .8; flour, white wheat, 100 pounds, 3.75, and red, by bushel, 1.32; rye 53 pounds, .75; new corn, .56; oats, .42; potatoes, .30; egg and stone coal, ton, 5.50; chestnut, No. 1. Lehigh, 5.50, nut, 4.50, hickory, 4.80, pea, 3.00, bituminous, 6.50; gypsum, ton, 13.00.

The Kutztown iron-foundry and Machine Shop, which was established by Messrs. Elias Jackson and Dan. B. Kutz, in 1851, became the property of Zehm and Bro. in 1865. They removed it to its present site in the year 1869. It was burnt down in 1870, and rebuilt the same year. In July, 1862, it began to cast bells. The first of them weighed fifty pounds, and sold for \$4.50.

On July 2, 1873, Henry Boyer dug the first earth for the foundation of the Kutztown Furnace. The contractors were Lee, Noble and Co., the former of Mahanoy city, the latter of Pottsville, Schuylkill county, Pa. Most of the stockholders live in the borough. The Philadelphia and Reading R. R. Co. went security for the bonds issued, and thus obtained the first mortgage on the property. Its first officers were Thomas Wren, of Pottsville, President, O. Bowman, of Trenton, N. J. Sec., Messrs. A. J. Fogel, Jno. Humbert, Esq., and Jno. Genser, also served as Secretaries. Present officers: O. Bowman, Pres.; Directors, Thos. D. Fister, Hon. H. H. Schwartz, Dr. Jer. Trexler, G. Kutz, Thos. Wren, Ralph Lee.

In 1875—76 was also established a furnace near Lyons, Maxatawny.

During this period Orders and Fraternities reached their bloom.

On Nov. 29, 1866, met in Kutztown, the Grand Lodge of Masons of Pennsylvania, J. L. Stichter, of Reading acting as the Right Worshipful the Grand Master. Now was instituted the Huguenot Lodge, No. 377, Ancient York Masons. Officers: A. J. Fogel, Worshipful Master, J. S. Trexler, Senior Warden; Jon, B. Grim, Treasurer; Lewis Fisher, Secretary. Present officers: Hon. H. H. Schwartz, Worshipful Master; Eldridge Zimmerman, Senior Warden. F. H. Yeager, Junior Warden, A. J. Fogel, Treasurer; Lewis Fisher, Secretary. This Lodge meets on every Saturday on, or before full moon of every month. Up to this time the number of members is one hundred fifteen.

On May 20, 1870, was founded the "Harugari." From its Secretary, Aug. Sprenger, we learn that it numbers about one hundred members, and has now in its treasury \$1200.00. On a lot in "Fairview" cemetery, the order recently planted an oak, which is green and flourishing, and will be dedicated July 4, 1876.

The "Daughters of Liberty" organized in 1873, and disbanded in 1876; the Knights of Pythias in 1872, and the American Mechanics Jr., in 1870, both of which still exist.

In the Fall of 1873 came into being the Maxatawny Grange, No. 14. George Kutz was the First Master, Wm. DeTurk, the second, and Louis Wagenhorst, the third. Its object is to protect agricultural labor against monopolies.

Towards the close of 1875 was organized in the borough the Berks Co. Poultry Association. Its first annual exhibition took place on January 11—14, 1876. Present officers: L. C. Berkemeyer, Pres., Conrad Gehring, Rec. Sec., J. H. Marx, Esq., Cor. Sec., S. S. Schmehl, Treasurer; Hon. H. H. Schwartz, Attorney.

During this time also, as before, from this section were selected men to represent us before the public eye. The Hon. H. H. Schwartz, who located as lawyer in Kutztown, in 1860, soon obtained the confidence of the citizens, and served as Esquire from 1863—1870. In 1870 he was elected a member of the Legislature, and, for three years, ornamented that body by his presence, and enlightened it by his political wisdom. In the years 1868 and 69, Henry Hottenstein, of Lyons, was also a member of the Assembly; whilst from 1866—69 J. D. Wanner, Esq., filled the office of Register of the county. In 1866, David Kutz, one of the most influential citizens of Maxatawny, was elected for a period of five years an Associate Judge of the Berks County courts.

The officers of Kutztown for the Centennial year are S. S. Schmehl, Chief Burgess; Daniel Hottenstein, Assistant Burgess; Town council, Ulrich Miller, Isaac K. Rahn, Juno S. Dunkle, Dav. A. Larasch,

William Keim, Wendel Miller; Treasurer, John Humbert, Esq. Solicitor, H. H. Schwartz; Sec., J. H. Marx, Esq.; Supervisor, Nat. Zimmerman; Regulators, John Humbert, David Hottenstein; High Constable, Isaac Fegely.

From the fact that in 1870 the population of Maxatawny was 2,531, we are led to infer that in 1876 it must be nearly 3,000. According to the statistics in the "New Historical Atlas of Berks County", its valuation is \$2,863,344; average wealth per each inhabitant, \$1,131; acres of improved land, 15,844.

The valuation of Kutztown is \$572,643; average wealth per each inhabitant, \$606.00.

In 1860 the population of the Borough was 919; in 1870, 965; in 1876, according to the Census taken during the second week of June 1876, by Jas. F. Wagenhorst, 1190. 609 females and 531 males. The fact, that, in less than six years, it increased, by nearly 250 souls, shows that Kutztown is rapidly progressing on the high way of prosperity. This growth is not owing altogether to the natural increase of families, but, in a very considerable degree, to the settlement in our midst of persons from a distance and from the vicinity. In the way of illustration we take the liberty of mentioning names such, as A. J. Fogel and David H. Hottenstein. The former is a young man whose enterprise and trustworthy character would ornament any locality; the latter we wish to hand down to the people of 1976, who may read these pages, as one in whom nature has compounded the elements of excellence into a noble man. In the same class also are placed persons, such as John Dunkel, the Steins, the Dietrichs, Doctors Berkemeyer and Shoemaker, Gernert, Urick, Gonser, Breininger and others,—all of whom add greatly to the wealth and improvement of the town.

Here follows a brief list of the Professional and Business citizens of our borough, those excepted to whom allusion has already been made:—

Esquires, H. H. Schwartz, Jas H. Marx; Physicians, Doctor Chas. Gerash, Jer. S. Trexler, J. H. Helfrich, Ed. Hottenstein, L. N. E. Shoemaker, Cyrus Wanner; Merchants (Dry Goods, &c.,) Jno. S. Dunkel, Stein & Bro., W. G. Hinterleiter, J. S. Bieber; Drug Stores, J. F. Breininger, Dr. L. C. Berkemeyer; Hardware, none in the borough since 1856, now one through the enterprise of S. S. Schmehl, who established it in the spring of 1875; Shoe Stores, Wanner & Humbert, S. E. Lehman & Co.; Lumber and Grain, Fogel & Zimmerman, J. S. Heffner; Book Store, L. F. Christ; Cigars, Chas. Bast, H. Bloch, N. Heckman, H. Keiter; E. G. Dikeman, G. O'Neal D. Saul; Liquor, D. W. Sharadin; Clothing, Peter Krause; Harness maker and store, M. T. Donmoyer; Dentistry, H. L. Johnson, S. O'Boyle, W. Stetler; Millinery and Notions, J. L. Eck; Millinery,

Mrs. D. A. G. Wink, Mrs. Mary Zimmerman, and Mrs. Mary Long; Jewelry, Aug. Springer, I. Benner and Son; Photographer and Artist, C. W. Snyder; Carriages, Rich. Miller's Sons, Dan. F. Wagner; Sewing Machines, J. L. Eck, W. S. Eck and H. W. Williams; Cabinet Maker and Undertakers, W. Gehret, Paul Hilbert, D. W. Sharadin; Machine Shop, Jno. Wentzel; Marble Yard, Philip Wentz; Tinsmith and Store, W. F. Kover, Mrs. J. B. Wagenhorst; Brickmakers, Jon. Bieber, Sr., J. H. Mohr; Shoemakers, W. Snyder, G. Brown, G. O'Neil, B. Snyder, Jno. Snyder, W. Miller; Painter, H. Gehret; Tailors, P. B. Kline, Peter Krause, H. W. Williams, C. D. Herman; Livery, P. F. Hartzell; Carpenters, D. Kline, A. Steinberger, W. McGargy, Dan. Yaxtheimer; Carpet Weaver, Mr. Glasser; Gunsmith, Aug. Weikusat; Butcher, Rahn & Reeser; Barber, G. Siegfried, W. C. Bornman; Blacksmith, W. Sander, Harry Scheidt; Bakery, Chas. Auer; Confectionary, Jas. O'Boyle; Restaurants, W. Stimmel, D. K. Sprenger, Jackson & Keim; Taverns, Dan. Zimmerman, Chas. Kutz, W. A. Keim, Ulrich Miller, Jno. Gernert, Israel Wentzel; Tannery, J. Dan. Sharadin; Brakesmen, Jac. Lawson, H. W. Strasser; News Agent, Jas. F. Wagenhorst; Postmaster, Jon. Bieber Sr.; Express offices: Phil. and Reading R. R. Ex. at the Depot, and Central Express at Berkenmeyer's Drug Store.

We close this section of our sketch by subjoining brief obituary notices of some of the leading men who left us for the other world:—

1. HON. JOHN WANNER, of Maxatawny.—Died in the Fall of 1842. He was blessed with thirteen children, who, as the Psalmist says, were as "olive plants around his table." Of these several became, and are still prominent men in the county. J. Daniel, as we have seen, filled for years public positions; Amos is a lawyer of the Reading bar, and one of our present representatives in the Legislature; Charles graduated with distinction in the Penn. Medical University in Philadelphia, and practised many years in Kutztown; Joel completed his literary course in Marshal College, Mercersburg, Pa. studied law, became Mayor of the city of Reading, and was a candidate for Congress; William served as Esquire for years in Maxatawny; Peter now lives on his farm in this township; and John is a successful merchant in Philadelphia.

2. CHARLES HERMAN WANNER, M. D.—Died Nov. 12, 1869, aged 42 years, 2 mos., 9 days. Reposes in Fairview Cemetery. The funeral services were conducted at the house by the Revds. Hinterleiter and Spieker, and at the cemetery and church, by Revds. J. S. Hermann and McCauley. Text, Genesis 48, 21. The funeral cortege consisted of the Medical Society of Berks county, choir of the church, the family, and relations of the deceased, and the Professors and students of the Keystone Normal School.

3. DAVID KUTZ.—Died July 20, 1870; aged 72 years, 7 mos., 17 days. Buried in Hope cemetery. Judge Kutz possessed a sound judgment, and, in his day, was one of the most prominent citizens of Maxatawny. His son George J., who is now the President of our Agricultural Society, lives on the old homestead, and is one among the most active members of the Trustees of the Normal School.

3. DAVID FISTER.—Died Oct. 8, 1871; aged 69 years, 3 mos., 19 days. Reposes in Hope cemetery. As we have already learned, the Fister family was one of the oldest that settled in this section, and David was certainly one of its worthiest representatives. His virtues and manners are still green in our minds, and, as we write, we drop a tear over his memory. Rev. J. S. Hermann preached his funeral sermon from Luke 21, 19.

4. CAPTAIN DANIEL BIEBER.—Died May 26, 1872; aged 76 years. Buried in Hope cemetery. Sermon by Rev. Mr. Spieker, from the text in Isaiah 57, 3.

5. BENJAMIN KUTZ.—Died Feb. 9, 1874; aged 67 years, 8 mos., 28 days; buried in Fairview cemetery. Sermon by Rev. J. S. Hermann on text, fifth book of Moses, chap. 32, v. 4. Our old friend is gone, but his many virtues, particularly his kind, genial disposition, will never be forgotten by those who enjoyed the pleasure of his acquaintance.

6. LEWIS K. HOTTENSTEIN.—Died June 9, 1875; aged 59 years, 4 mos., 13 days; buried in Fairview cemetery. Sermon by Rev. J. S. Hermann; text, John's Gospel, 11, 11.

From the KUTZTOWN PATRIOT of June 17, 1875, we extract the following:

"Kutztown, the Keystone Normal School, the cause of education, has lost a warm friend, and an ardent and substantial support in the death of L. K. Hottenstein, of this place. He was the heaviest stockholder of the Normal. His investment of \$3000.00, was virtually a donation to the institution, inasmuch as he never received, never expected to receive a cent of interest on the investment. He had made similar investments for the best interests of the community to the amount of perhaps \$20,000, and over. When such men die, the loss of them is a heavy, and apparently, an irreparable one, and yet what is loss to us, proves to them eternal gain."

7. DANIEL KUTZ.—Died Dec. 1, 1875; aged 92 years, 7 mos., 12 days; buried in Hope cemetery. Sermon by Rev. J. S. Hermann; text, Psalm 91, 16.

8. ELIJAH DETURK.—Died Jan. 19, 1876; aged 66 years, 1 month, 28 days; buried in Fairview cemetery. As he was a leading member of the Trustees of the Keystone Normal, his body was taken to the chapel of the school. Here Rev. J. S. Hermann preached from Proverbs 10, 7. In the funeral procession were the Professors and students of the Normal.



9. ROBERT LARASCH.—Died May 6, 1876; aged 73 years, 2 mos., 3 days. Buried in Fairview cemetery.

While we write these lines, the life of our esteemed townsman, Dr. CHAS. A. GERASH, is hanging in the balance. An able practitioner of many years standing, he enjoys a high reputation among his brethren, for skill in the art of healing. One of the heaviest stockholders in the Keystone Normal, for a long time its Treasurer, and now one of its most influential members, he is certainly a man, over whose loss the whole community would sincerely mourn. We hope and pray that his life may be preserved for many years to come.

## II. MILITARY HISTORY.

The military record of Kutztown and vicinity is a brilliant reflection of the great glory that envelopes the military record of the whole county. Already in the year of Braddock's defeat, 1775, Conrad Weiser was appointed Colonel of a regiment of volunteers from Berks. How ably he repelled the incursions of the Indians; how, early in 1776, General Joseph Hiester enrolled a company of eighty men, and marched to New Jersey and Long Island, to support General Washington; how, in July, 1776, at Lancaster, Pa., to make preparations for the defense of the country, in union with fifty-three battalions of the Association of Pennsylvania, were representatives of seven battalions that had been organized in Berks; these facts, and many others, are so indelibly written on the pages of history that he who runs may read them. Not only in Berks, but elsewhere, did our German forefathers distinguish themselves by a spirit of self-sacrifice and patriotic devotion to the country. In the most critical hour of the Revolution, when Gen. Washington appealed for material aid, nine American Germans put into his hands 21,000 pounds. They were Michael Hillegas, John Steinmetz, Abraham Bickley, Joseph Bleivor, Henry Keppel, Fred. C. Hassen-clever, Isaac Melcher, Jno. Schaeffer, and Andrew Doz. Let it never be forgotten that, during the entire period of the Revolutionary War, Michael Hillegas was Treasurer of the United States.

From John Wink, one of the most intelligent citizens of Maxatawny, we learn that Washington's army marched through Kutztown. Eye-witnesses informed him that it came from Easton, and encamped for a time in the valley between the present residence of John Kemp, Esq., and the farm of Daniel Zimmerman in Maxatawny. Washington and his wife were with the soldiers. Mrs. Sassaman, for some years gone to the other world, used to delight in telling her visitors, that Mrs. Washington, who lodged in the house of her father, Joseph Gross, lifted her on her lap, and soothed her with caresses. On their way from Trenton, by way of Easton, to the well-known camp at Reading, the captured Hessians were marched through Kutztown.

It is interesting also to know, that, whilst the battle at Germantown, 1777, was raging, the thunders of the cannon fell upon the ears of the inhabitants of Kutztown and vicinity; that, after the battle of Brandywine, 1777, a regiment of the American army, en-

camped on the farms now owned by the Hottensteins, and, on leaving, impressed the horses and wagons of the people; and that George Kemp, Esq., was one of the wagon masters, who were present at the battle of Germantown.

On the farm of J. Bieber, Jr., in Maxatawny, stands the Mammoth White Oak of Berks. It may justly be called the Centennial White Oak of Pennsylvania. On the 15th of September, 1777, one hundred years will have passed by, since the baggage train of Gen. Washington's army, on its retreat from the battle-field of Germantown, sought and found protection under and around this Revolutionary tree. It is said that two centuries have looked upon this oak; and competent judges assure us that it is now sturdy enough to defy the storms of another hundred years, and may wave its branches in honor of the Centennial of 1976. One foot above the ground, it measures twenty-eight feet in circumference; and, ten feet above it, begin to stretch forth twenty-seven limbs, some of which are three feet in diameter.

In Maxatawny were still living in 1840, the following Revolutionary pensioners: Henry Grim, aged 75; Fred. Bower, 83; Jacob Wink, 82; Philip Noyes, 84; Christian Schmick, 76. To this list we add the names of Wm. Marx, Sr., and son, William, Casper Wink (buried on Squire Kemp's farm), Jacob Esser, Peter Kutz, George Piister, Peter Wink, Philip Wink, and Doldridge. On January 7, 1857, died one in Rockland township, Matthias Roth, aged 78 years. Rev. M. Knoske preached his funeral sermon from Psalms 41, 4. On the last Monday of November 1836, died another, Peter Klein Esq., of Greenwich township, aged 77 years, and was buried at Dunkel's church. Revs. Yeager and Herrmann preached on this occasion.

In truth, among the descendants of the German settlers the love of country never waned. In the war of 1812, the camp fires burned brightly. A single example will suffice to show with what ardor the people of this section shouldered the musket against our hereditary foe. From our venerable friend, father Jacob Fisher, still living in Kutztown, now eighty-six years old, whose smiling countenance and jolly spirit always drives away the fell spirit of melancholy, we learn that, during that war, was raised here a company which numbered one hundred and thirty men. With Gabriel Old, a Lutheran deacon of the Union congregation, as Captain, and John Fister, as first Lieutenant, they left their homes in August, 1814, for the seat of war at Baltimore. On their arrival at the Columbia bridge, in Lancaster county, Pa., thirty of this company were taken away to fill up the ranks of another. As they neared York, they heard the thunders of the enemies' cannon but their courage waxed the stronger. For their services they received no pay, but afterwards a yearly pension of ninety-six dollars. Sometimes for three entire

days they had nothing to eat, and, at night, they slept beneath the canopy of the heavens, without any cover except that which the night air wore around them.

Jacob Graff, also a resident of Kutztown, now eighty three years old, and a member of this company, confirms the statements just given. These two, together with Michael DeLong of Longswamp, are the only living survivors of this company.

The officers of this company were: Gabriel Old, Captain; John Fister, Lieutenant; Ensign, William Shook; Sergeants, Rudolph Meislin, Isaac Levan, William Graeff, B. Armor; Corporals, Daniel Graeff, Jno. Witman, Jacob Lehman, Jacob Longhien; Musicians, Jonas Freyler and William Marx.

Of those who volunteered for the Mexican war, in 1845, Lewis Brown is the only present survivor. They were enrolled in Capt. Leoser's company of Reading, and returned some of them in 1847. Among the killed were William Patterson, and two members of the Graff family. John Kutz died in Vera Cruz of erysipelas, brought on by a wound in one of his fingers.

When the late Civil war broke out, the inhabitants of this section, dropping differences of political opinion, joined together in maintaining the national supremacy. On the grounds of Fairview cemetery now repose the ashes of some, while others sleep beneath the ground which they fertilized with their blood. From the family of Elias Jackson went as volunteers four sons. Two of them were killed. The one, Andrew, belonged to Company A, Captain Lenhart, of Reading, and fell in the battle at Fredericksburg, on the 13th of Dec., 1862. The other—Robert—joined the first Pennsylvania Cavalry, and met his death at Whitehouse Landing, Va., on June 21st, 1863. Here he was buried on a farm which once belonged to Major General Robert Lee. There were also killed Henry Smith, Daniel Humbert, Frank Humbert, Charles Folk, Martin Baer.—Among those that died of wounds or sickness incurred in the war, were Joseph Geiger, Benn. Osewald, Samuel Marx and son, Charles Marx and Charles Detweiler. This last named one enlisted in the 4th., Regiment, P. V., September 13, 1852; was wounded at the battle of Cedar Creek, Oct. 19, 1864; died, March 13, 1865, in Mowers U. S. General Hospital, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia; aged twenty-four years, five months, and twenty-nine days.

Dr. Jer. Trexler, one of our ablest physicians, spent two years (1863—65) in the service as surgeon of '73 P. V. He went through the "hundred days" fight, marched to the sea, and was twice wounded.

Of others who fell into a premature grave, we have not been able to glean any trustworthy information.

From the archives of the Borough we have taken the following statement of the expenses incurred in furnishing volunteers and filling quotas:—

## KUTZTOWN AND MAXATAWNY.

25

First Call.—Oct. 6, 1862—Nine men volunteers,	\$927.33
“ “ “ June 29 1863—Thirty men, State defence,	150.00
Second Call.—Feb. 5, 1864—Seventeen men for quota,	5100.00
“ “ “ Apr. 7, 1864—Four men additional,	1155 00
Third Call.—Sept. 1864—Fifteen men for quota,	7180.00
“ “ “ “ “ Two men additional,	400.00
Fourth Call.—March, 1865,—Thirteen men,	3900.00
Expenses in filling Third and Fourth Calls,	157.88
“ “ “ “ “ Fourth Call,	15.00

Total amount.

19,005.21

Of this sum were raised by private subscription \$1,810.00, and by County bounty \$3,000.00; the remainder, by the borough.

The Bounty tax in Maxatawny amounted to \$48,060.00

We must not forget to state that, in addition to the quotas raised, many others enlisted for the war.

From this brief sketch of our military record, we infer that the people of this section know not only how to guide the plow for the benefit of their children, but also how to use the musket for the benefit of their country; and that, in the hour of need, Pennsylvania can have recourse to no men more sturdy and valiant than the citizens of Kutztown and Maxatawny.

### III. ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

#### I.—THE OLD UNION CHURCH.

It appears to be generally admitted that the old Moselem congregation, in Richmond township, was organized in 1769, and that the descendants of Wm. Penn. endowed it with one hundred acres of land. This towuship was established soon after the erection of Berks into a county, (1752), and some years later than Maxatawny. In the records of the Longswamp Church, it is stated that one Michel was its pastor, from 1750—54; and, in the Coetral minutes of 1771, that he preached prior to this year, in Maxatawny. From a comparison of these facts we can reasonably infer that the old Union church of Maxatawny was organized earlier than the Moselem congregation, and sometime between 1752 and 1769. It stood on land which now belongs partly to Dr. Edward Hottenstein's farm, and partly to David Levan's farm. Reuben Bast, of Kutztown, informs us that his great grandfather appropriated to its use twenty-four acres of land. Its earliest history is wrapped in obscurity. All we know certainly is that, prior to the erection of the building in Kutztown, in 1790, its preachers for several years were the Revds. Daniel Lehman and John Henry Helfrich. On the 9th of November, 1789 the present existing congregation was reorganized; and on the 24th of May, 1790, the corner-stone was laid. At its dedication, Aug. 7, 1791, were present Rev. Daniel Lehman, Evangelical Lutheran preacher, and Rev. John Henry Helfrich, Evangelical Reformed preacher. To the day of their death, they continued to be the pastor. It must be stated however, that, whilst Rev. Lehman officiated in the Evangelical Trinity Lutheran Church, Reading, from the close of 1799 to the close of 1803, Rev. Frederick Ritse served the Lutheran portion of the congregation. It is a singular fact that, during Ritse's term, no ecclesiastical proceedings, not even the baptisms, were recorded. The earliest officers were, on the Lutheran side, as Trustees, Jacob Herman, 1789—1801, Jacob Schweirer, 1789, Michael Werlein, 1789; and, on the Reformed side, George Pfister, 1789—1839, Jeremiah Kolb, 1789, Peter Christman, 1789—1813;—as Elders on the Lutheran side, George Kistler, 1791; Peter Mathern, 1791; and on the Reformed side, Nicholas Kieffer, 1791; George Kemp, 1791; as Deacons on the Lutheran side, M. Bast, 1791; Abraham Biehl, 1791—95; Nicholas Kutz, 1791—99; Jacob Esser, 1796—99; John Bieber, 1799; John Kutz, 1799; Abraham Eerkel, 1800; and

on the Reformed side, Jno. Siegfried, 1791; Simon George, 1791; John Levan, Jr., 1791; Phil. Michael, 1795; Philip Klein, 1797—98; John Funk, 1801.

In 1812 there was expressed a desire to complete the building. Up to this time, it had cost \$3,397.33½. On the 2d of January, 1813, it became free of debt. In 1816, the building was weather boarded, at an expense of \$515.98. In this slow way the work went on, till at last, in 1842, the new church yard was completed, and, in 1846, the new pulpit constructed. The total cost was about \$6000. John Cunius contracted for the carpentering, and Jacob Humbert, the grand father of our townsman, Jno. Humbert, for the frame work.

The real estate of the congregation consists of seven lots. The first three, on the corner of which the building stands, were deeded to it, September 8, 1820, for the consideration of one dollar, by Henry Kohler, the owner of them, and the then proprietor of Kutztown. On May 9, 1804, was delivered to it the school lots, Nos. 87 and 88, for five shillings, by Jacob Herman, Leasee, and afterwards one of them for school purposes, gratuitously, by Henry Kohler, proprietor as aforesaid. On one of them must still be paid a yearly ground rent of 37½ cents, and on lots Nos. 85 and 86, a yearly ground rent of 74 cents. These last were purchased from the estate of Jacob Baldy, in the name of the congregation, for 120 dollars, by Christian Schmick.

For 86 years the Reformed and Lutheran people worshipped Almighty God in this venerable edifice. Now the time had come when their interests required on its ruins should be erected a temple that would more worthily represent their zeal and devotion in Divine things. On April 4th 1876, at a meeting of the joint Vestries, was passed the following resolution:—"That the question whether a New Union Church shall be built, shall be submitted to the members of the Lutheran and Reformed congregations of Kutztown, to be decided at an election to be held on April 17; after service to be voted upon with written or printed tickets as follows,—for building a New Union Church and against building a New Union Church." As officers of the election, which was held between the hours of twelve and four, were appointed William Bieber, John S. Dunkle, James DeTurk, Jonathan Hill, The result was 279 votes for, and 77 against building. There was immediately appointed a Committee on subscription,—Charles Rahn, Charles Deisher, George Bieber, David Schaeffer, Jacob Sunday, Charles Kutz, Jonathan Bieber, John Christman, George Kutz, John Kemp, W. Rahn, Jac. Rahn.

In their first report they presented the amount of \$9129.60.

In the presence of a great multitude of people, on Whitsunday, June 4th, the corner stone was laid. The exercises were continued on Whitmonday.

On the morning of Sunday preached Rev. B. S. Smoll, assisted by Rev. J. S. Herrmann, and the afternoon of the same day, Rev. B. Weiss, from Lenhartsville, from the text 1 Cor. 3, 10 — 11. Now was laid the corner-stone by Revds. J. S. Herrmann and B. E. Kramlich, assisted by the Elders of the congregation. In it were deposited the following articles:—a Bible, a Lutheran and a Heidelberg Catechism, Sacramental Wine and Wafer, the names of the officers, Coins, a Silver Half Dollar, donated by Dewalt Kemp, with his name and year engraved on it, the Lutheran "Zeitschrift," the Reformed "Hausfreund," and the "Kutztown Journal;"—also a document containing a resolution that the congregation shall remain Lutheran and Reformed so long as five members in good standing shall desire it. On Monday morning Rev. B. Weiss preached again, and in the afternoon, Rev. D. Humbert of Bowers. The old corner-stone was again laid by Rev. J. S. Herrmann, who also delivered an affecting address. In it were deposited an old Bible, presented by Charles Kutz, of Kutztown, an old Hymn Book, the old Constitution of the congregations, with all the names of the officers to the present time, a silver Quarter Dollar and a Five Cent piece, donated by the old bell-ringer, Charles O'Neal. Rev. Mr. Humbert having pronounced the benediction, the people dispersed.

The plans and specifications of the building were prepared by William A. Fink, of Reading, who also superintends its construction.

The present officers, on the Lutheran side, are: Trustees, Wm. Bieber, Jon. S. Bieber, Daniel Kohler, Isaac Hottenstein; Elders, Jacob Sunday, Stanley Schwoyer, Joseph Bailly. M. Deysher; Deacons, James Heffner, Jacob Kutz, John Hill, Jacob Schwoyer; on the Reformed side, Trustees, Jacob Rahn, John Christman, Jacob Wink, David Levan; Elders, Egidius Butz, Henry Wagenhorst, Nathan Kemp, Isaac Wagenhorst; Deacons, J. S. Dunkle, James DeTurk, Wm. Kutz, and John Miller.

## 2. EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN TRINITY CONGREGATION.

About eight years before the demolition of the Union building of 1790, there began a movement which resulted in the organization of an exclusively Lutheran congregation, and the erection of another building. This movement was the establishment of a separate Lutheran Sunday School, April 24, 1868. At a special meeting of the school, Feb. 12, 1874, held to consider the fact that many Lutheran members of the Union congregation earnestly desired the organization of an exclusively Lutheran church, it was resolved that the school would raise \$500—towards the erection of a building, *provided* that the basement, or a Chapel-room, be set apart for its meetings. A subscription of \$3,100 having been obtained, work was



begun in earnest. On August 2d, 1874, the corner-stone was laid, and on December 25, 1874, took place the dedication. Including the lot,—144 feet front by 55 in depth,—the whole cost was about \$6000. Toward the payment of this, the Sunday School contributed the sum of \$1400.60. Of this, \$264.60 were raised by means of a Floral, Fruit, and Fancy Fair, held August 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, of the year 1875; but the greater part by subscriptions from the school and its members. From the time of its completion, the School held its sessions in the Chapel; whilst the Rev. Mr. Spieker preached on Sunday at such times as his services were not needed in the Union building.

The members of the Union congregation having determined upon erecting a Union church, Rev. Mr. Speaker resigned, and preached his farewell sermon, April 23, 1876. On the following Whitmonday he was elected Pastor of Trinity.

Its present officers are: Trustees, Isaac F. Christ, Daniel Yax-theimer, Jacob Hinterleiter, Peter Krause; Elders, Richard Miller, John Humbert, Esq., Danl. Hinterleiter, Sr., Jacob Heffner; Deacons, Danl. Springer, Saml. L. Wiltrout, Clinton Bieber, Eugene Bieber. The congregation now numbers about 150 members.

It must also be added that, for some years past Rev. Mr. Spieker has been preaching both in German and English.

### 3. THE GERMAN METHODIST CONGREGATION.

On April 12, 1828, at the house of Peter Neff, was preached the first Methodist sermon to the people of Kutztown, by Bishop John Seybert. From this time on to 1848, preachers of this denomination visited this town and vicinity, but, as would seem, without much success. Their pious zeal was at last rewarded. In the years 1848, '49, and '50, welcomed and encouraged by families, such as the Elys and others, they had regular services. In 1850 a lot was bought in Kutztown. On it was erected and dedicated a building during the same year. The first regular itinerant preachers were the Revs. Noah McLane and Isaac Hess. The present pastor is the Rev. Andreas Ziegenfuss, and the Trustees are Benj. Kline, D. B. Schneider, and Jonas Hoch.

### 4. PREACHERS.

In the section of country, now known as Maxatawny, Longswamp, Greenwich, and some adjacent townships, as also in the neighboring districts of Lehigh, from 1734-1771, flourished the reign of ecclesiastical vandalism. The original settlers, it is true, were pious people, and brought with them from the Fatherland their Bibles and Arndt's "Wahres Christenthum;" but, as they and their children fell into the hands of ministerial tramps and vagrants,

whose ignorance was equaled only by their immorality, they gradually lost their respect for religion, and induced a state of society that, in some points, reminds us of the wild habits of the ancient Teutons. A single striking example of most of the preachers of that period in this section, will give us an insight into the character of those who afflicted the people with their beastly vices.

From Harbaugh's *Lives of the "Fathers of the Reformed Church,"* volume second, page 242, we extract the following :

"As specimens of these leaders of the people, may be mentioned a Mr. Fritz, who, on one occasion, ascended the pulpit of DeLong church in a state of beastly intoxication! He announced his text: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." Repeating his text, with emphasis, he lost his balance, and tumbled down the high pulpit stairs, with the last words, "follow me," in his mouth! One of the Elders arose in his seat, and earnestly addressing the people, exclaimed, "No brethren, we will not follow *him!*" He was immediately sent away."

In the old records, mention is made of another vagabond, Philip Jacob Michael, founder of Michael's church in Upper Bern, Berks Co., Pa., who preached in Longswamp, 1750-1754, and also in Maxatawny. It is stated that this man left the church in Maxatawny, "in a wretched condition; it having been ruined by bad ministers, most of whom confessed no religion at all."

#### 1. GERMAN REFORMED PREACHERS.

(a.) JOHANN HEINRICH HELFERICH, of venerable memory.— Into the midst of this religious chaos, in 1772, came the Rev. John Heinrich Helferich, who, by his practical piety and superior talents, gradually dissipated the clouds that had settled on the Reformed denomination. He was born in Mossbach, a village in Hesse, near Frankfort-on-the-Mayn, on the 22d of October 1739. Having passed through the gymnasium, together with his step-brothers, Albert Conrad Helfenstein and Jno. Henry Helfenstein, completed a theological course at the University of Heidelberg. Licensed on Sept. 22d, 1761, he, with his step-brother, Helfenstein, left Amersterdam in June, 1771, and landed in New York, Jan. 14th, 1772. On the 3d of November, 1773, he married Magdalena Sassamanhausen. His charge consisted of the following congregations: Kutztown, 1772; DeLong, 1772; Longswamp, 1778; Upper Milford, 1779; Trexlertown, 1784; Ziegle Church, 1778; Weissenberg and Lowhill, 1772; Heidelberg, 1772; Lynntown, 1804. The ancient records all agree in testifying that he was a superior preacher, and illustrated his public teaching by a consistent private life; while in his own house, at the close of the day, he called together his family, read the Bible, explained the catechism to his children, and closed with prayer. On the 5th of December, 1810, as he was in the act of mounting his horse, he was struck with palsy,

and died suddenly. On the occasion of his funeral, the Rev. Mr. Blumer preached at the house; and the Rev. Mr. Vandersloot at the grave, from the words in Luke XII:37. His ashes repose in the Sassamanshausen private family graveyard, in Maxatawny, Berks Co. In this county, and in Lehigh, his descendants, who continue in their lives the virtues of their ancestor, are among the most prominent and influential families. Of them now reside in Kutztown, Dr. John Henry Helferich; in Lyons, Maxatawny, Benj. Helferich; and in Fogelsville, Lehigh Co., Pa., Rev. Dr. W. Helferich.

(b)REV. CHARLES GEBLER HERRMANN.—The Herrmann family is eminently an ecclesiastical one. Dr. Lebrecht Frederick Herrmann came to this country in August, 1786, and died on the 30th of Jan., 1848, aged 86 years, 3 months, and 22 days. He prepared for the ministry five of his own sons, as also Revs. John Guildin, Benj. S. Schneek, Thos. Leimbach, Joseph Dubs, Peter Fisher, Abraham Berge, Rich. Fisher, and David Young. His son, Charles Gebler, was born October 24, 1792, in Germantown, where his father officiated as a Reformed preacher. Licensed at Harrisburg, Pa., in May, 1810, and ordained in the "Swamp Church," by the Revs. Pauli and Vandersloot, his first charge consisted of Kutztown and and DeLong's congregations. In the former he preached his introductory sermon on the 15th of August, 1819. In time his charge embraced, in addition to those just mentioned, the following congregations: Huff, Oley, Windsor, Germant's, St. Peter's, Dunkel, Weis, Zion, Fogel's, Mertztown, and Lehigh. On the 14th day of 1815, he became the husband of Esther, daughter of Jacob and Maria Sassaman. Three daughters and three sons were the fruit of this union. He died of dropsy at his residence in Maxatawny, Berks Co., Pa., August 4, 1863, aged 70 years, 9 months, and 11 days. On the 8th of August he was buried in the family graveyard, near his residence. No less than eighteen ministers were present at his funeral. At the house the Rev. Dr. J. S. Kessler made an address; the Rev. Jos. S. Dubs, D. D., preached the funeral discourse from Luke II:29, 30; and the Rev. Alfred J. G. Dubs conducted the burial services.

One of the earliest visits we ourselves made on our first arrival in Maxatawny, was at the house of Father Herrmann. As he had united my parents in the bonds of matrimony, we were more than anxious to see the venerable man, and hear from his own lips the lessons of ripe experience. The remembrance of that visit is still green in our memory and it will fade away only when we ourselves shall have faded away in the darkness of death.

Two striking facts attest the high repute in which he was held by this community, and his ministerial co-laborers. No other than a man of strong character, of real worth, and of untiring devotion to

his calling, could have remained for a period of 51 years in his first and only charge, and attracted to his funeral eighteen brethren to mourn his loss.

From Harbaugh's *Lives of the Fathers*, we extract the following:

"Father Herrmann was a man of superior talent, and of more than ordinary speaking capacities. His temperament was ardent, and his manner in the pulpit, lively and interesting? Of his children, five are still living. Two of them are Reformed preachers. One of the daughters is the wife of Dr. John H. Helferich, of Kutztown, another, of Rev. Danl. Brendle, of Bethlehem, Northampton Co., Pa., and a third, the widow of the late Judge Willoughby Fogel, of Fogelsville, Lehigh Co., Pa."

(c.) J. SASSAMAN HERRMANN.—Whilst still studying theology, in Lawrenceville, Chester Co., Pa., under Dr. L. Frederick Herrmann, Revs. Guldin and Albert Helfenstein, this clergyman preached English at St. Vincent's and Brumback's of that county. Ordained in Siegfried's church, Maxatawny, Sept. 8, 1835, by the Revs. F. E. Vandersloot, A. L. Hermann, and Thos. N. Leimbach, he, together with his father, served for eight years sixteen congregations. In 1844 he became sole pastor of the following: Weiss', Grimsville, Dunkel's, Windsor, St. Peter's, Fleetwood, Huff's, New Jerusalem. Under his successful administration, the congregation in Kutztown, of which he took charge in June, 1861, grew into the present membership of about five hundred souls.

As already stated, in connection with his laborious duties as a pastor, he edited "*Der Hirt*," and along with each number, sent also the "*Kutztown Advertiser*."

(d.) ALFRED J. HERRMANN received his literary education in the old University of New York city, which belonged in part to the Low Dutch church, and his theological, under the tuition of Rev. Jno. Guldin. Ordained in Ziegel's church, Weissenburg, Lehigh Co., by the Rev. Father Dubbs and others, he first took charge of old Jerusalem, Albany township, Berks Co., and, in no long time, also of Seiberlingsville, DeLong's, Zion, Fogelsville, Weissenburg, and Topton. For the last twenty-six years, this clergyman has officiated, and still continues, in the same charge. In our day when congregations, for the most part, change their preachers almost every five years, it is certainly to be accounted a singular fact, that in this section are clergymen who begin and end their official careers in the same circuit of labor. To the praise of such, let this observation be noted. During his ministry, down to the present time, the Rev. A. J. Hermann founded the congregations at Topton and Seiberlingsville, laid six corner-stones, dedicated ten churches, buried nine hundred thirty-six persons, married seven hundred eighty couple, baptized fifteen hundred sixty souls, and confirmed thirteen hundred.

It is worthy of special mention that, according to their family

traditions, the Maxatawny Hermanns are lineal descendants of the celebrated Arminius (in German, Hermann). Under his leadership the revolted German tribes surprised the proconsul Varus, and cut his army to pieces (A. D. 10).

## 2. LUTHERAN PREACHERS.

(a). REV. DANIEL LEHMAN—On the 7th of August, 1791, he became pastor of the old Union congregation in Kutztown, and died October 1, 1810. As already stated, he had charge of Trinity church, in Reading, 1778-1782, and in 1797, received the honor of a second call from this congregation. His body reposes right in front of the pulpit of Zion's church, Moselem, Richmond township, Berks Co., Pa. Here also he preached for many years. Moselem has always been noted for its strict adherence to genuine Lutheranism. In its rules of very ancient date, it is stated that the preacher "taking the Bible as the rule of faith, must explain the Divine word, "nach der unveraenderten Augsburgischen Confession und dem Lutherischen Catechismus." It is pleasing to know that Rev. Jno. Henry Heflerich and he were close friends. The former, as he was in the act of mounting a horse, to visit the widow of his associate, was struck with palsy. They died but two months apart.

Tradition has it that Rev. Lehman was a man of superior education, and an excellent preacher. When necessary, he knew how to administer severe reproof. In his congregation at Grimsville, Berks Co., were persons by the name of Odenwalder, who troubled him exceedingly. Referring to them in his farewell sermon, he remarked that, as in the old country they had been notorious intermeddlers, the Devil, thinking that they would be splendid soldiers in the infernal camp, tied them up in a sack, and transported them across the Ocean, on his way to the "lower regions"; but, on reaching Albany township, finding that their struggles and kicking were "too much" for his Satanic majesty, he dropped them in the vicinity of Grimsville.

(b.) REV. JOHN KNOSKE.—From documents kindly furnished us by Revs. S. K. Brobst, of Allentown, the able editor of the "Lutherische Zeitschrift," and F. G. F. Schantz, Lutheran clergyman at Myerstown, Pa., we have gleaned what follows.

The Rev. John Knoske was born June 24, 1779, in Herrenstadt, Schleswig. Obeying the summons of the King of Prussia to enter the royal service, his father removed to Berlin. Here the son completed his classical education in the best schools of that city; and, in due time, was confirmed a member of the Trinity Lutheran church. Several of his earlier years he spent in Odensen and Copenhagen, Denmark, and acquired a thorough knowledge of the Danish language. At the outbreak of the war between England and Denmark, Mr. Knoske left the country, and landed at Boston.

May 1, 1801. In Philadelphia he met with kindred souls in the persons of Revs. Helmuth, Schmidt, Schafer, Schultz. In 1802 he preached in that section of Berks which now forms a part of Schuylkill county. To Elizabeth, daughter of William and Magdalena Koeh, he was married July 1, 1806, and lived with her a happy life fifty-three years. Soon after the death of Rev. Daniel Lehman, he became his successor; and from 1811 to March, 1856, lived in Kutztown. Here, as he himself wrote, he preached "unter vielen Amts-Freuden und auch grossen Amts-Leiden." His failing health no longer permitting him to bear the burdens of the ministry, he moved to Reading, Pa. In that city he lived three years. Secluded from the din and the bustle of the world, he now spent his time chiefly in preparing himself for a happy departure from time into eternity. His hour came. In the Charles Evans cemetery in Reading, September 28, 1859, he was buried. At his funeral were present the Revs. F. J. F. Schantz, T. T. Jaeger, A. S. Leinbach, S. K. Brobst, G. A. Hinterleitner, R. S. Wagner, H. Grahn, Dr. Valentine, C. F. McCauley, Erasmus Helferich. Aged 80 years, 3 mos.

A few months before his death, Father Knoske had written his own funeral sermon, and selected the hymn to be sung. The Rev. Mr. Schantz read the former, and the Rev. Mr. Leinbach announced the latter from the German Lutheran book of hymns (391, v. 7. 10). Of the sermon we subjoin the following extract:

"Wer selig ist auf seinem Sterbebette."

"Wenn ihr so wollt, so moegt ihr es als meine mir selbst gehaltene Leichenpredigt ansehen, denn ich schreibe es mit einem sehr geruehrten Herzen unter Gebet und Flehen zu Gott.

Mein Text ist Roemer 4. 8.

"Selig ist der Mann, welchem Gott keine Suende zurechnet."

Wier haben zwei Stuecke zu erwaeagen:

1stens—Welchen Menschen rechnet Gott keine Suende zu?—und  
2tens—Wie ist ihr Zustand auf dem Sterbebette?"

We append an extract from Father Knoske's diary for the years 1802—1849. This was drawn up by his own hands.

Yrs.	Congreg'n.	Bapt'd.	Conf'r'd.	Comm't.	Mar'd.	Bur'd.
1802—11	5	1077	354	3004	190	184
1811—21	8	2356	1102	11689	438	503
1821—31	6	1845	811	9256	435	558
1831—40	5	1062	592	6204	220	295
1840—49	2	70	130	250	38	38
Total,	26	6410	2980	30473	1318	1578

From this table our readers can form some idea of the ministerial work he performed. From 1849 to 1859 he often preached, but took charge of no congregations. Down to the time of his death he had officiated in the ministry fifty-seven years. Of his surviving children his son Edward is now engaged in business at Bower's station.

Maxatawny, Berks Co., Pa. The people of Kutztown and vicinity still bear him in affectionate remembrance. He excelled in pulpit oratory. So powerful was his eloquence, and the matter of his sermons so interesting, that his hearers often listened with unabated interest to discourses which consumed two hours in their delivery.

(c.) REV. DANIEL KOHLER began and completed his studies in the Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. Elected, June 21, 1839, pastor of the congregation in Kutztown, he preached his introductory sermon, August 18, 1839, from the text in Ezekiel 3, 18—21. Died at his residence in Maxatawny, May 17, 1876, and was buried in the grave yard of Siegfried's church. Rev. B. E. Kramlich preached his funeral sermon. Aged sixty-nine years, three months and nineteen days.

In addition to his gifts as a preacher, it is said that he possessed an extraordinary memory. As one of the Directors of Maxatawny, he manifested an abiding interest in the cause of education. To him the township owes some of the most valuable improvements in its common schools.

(d.) J. C. SMITH.—This clergyman is a native of Kutztown, and, as the successor of Rev. Kohler, preached in our borough about three years. Graduated at Gettysburg both in the College and Seminary. He now officiates in New Mahanoy, Schuylkill Co., Pa., and is regarded as an able and successful preacher. Jno. Humbert, Esq., informs us that he has completed a work on "Mechanical Mathematics," and that he intends to publish it. His sister, Mrs. Mary Zimmerman, resides in our town.

(e.) G. A. HINTERLEITER.—"In dem lieben Deutschland war ich geboren und zwar in Weissenburg am Sand Bayern,"—thus writes this highly esteemed clergyman. Having completed his studies in the Fatherland, he left his native country and landed in New York in 1849. In 1851 he became a member of the German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Pennsylvania. About the middle of February, 1852, he took charge of the Lutheran congregation in Kutztown. In no long time he also became the Pastor of the churches in Lobachsville, Oley and Friedensburg. In our borough he preached during a period of fourteen years and a half. In 1865, contrary to his wishes, he was elected Professor of German in the College and Seminary at Gettysburg, but, after mature deliberation, declined the position. Meanwhile, the Evangelical Trinity congregation at Pottsville, Schuylkill Co., Pa., tendered him a call. This he accepted, and, having preached his farewell sermon in Kutztown, July 1866 moved to that place.

If this brother had not so earnestly charged us not to say a word in his praise, we certainly would indulge in a merited panegyric on his superior scholarship, his fine historical culture, his brilliant imagination, and that warm-hearted Gemüthlichkeit which makes

him a man in whom is realized the beautiful saying of Terence, "Nihil humani a me alienum puto."

(*f.*) GEORGE F. SPIEKER.—A native of Howard county, Md., after having completed his literary education in Baltimore City College, he pursued his theological studies in the Lutheran seminaries at Gettysburg and Philadelphia. Ordained to the ministry June 19, 1867, he became Pastor of the Lutheran congregation at Kutztown, June 30, 1867. In this capacity he served nearly nine years. As already stated, when the Union congregation of our borough resolved to continue its old organization, he resigned, and was elected, June 4, 1876, Pastor of Trinity Lutheran church. He has also charge of the congregations at Moselem and Pricetown.

His wife is the daughter of Mr. William Hoch, a gentleman of the highest character, and one of the best citizens of Maxatawny.

At different periods Mr. Spieker acted in Penna. College, Gettysburg, as Professor of the German language and literature, and filled a similar situation for one year in the Keystone Normal School. He was also elected to the same position in Muhlenburg College, Allentown, Lehigh Co., Pa., but declined the call. At the last convention of the Lutheran Ministerium of Penna., held in Reading, June 11, 1876, he was chosen German secretary of that body. These facts sufficiently indicate the high reputation which this clergyman enjoys not only among his ministerial brethren, but in the community at large. No words from our pen could add to his praise.

(*g.*) ISAAC ROELLER.—This clergyman is a native of Montgomery Co., Pa., but, as he has spent the greater part of his life in Berks, we claim him as one of our citizens. Years ago, before Theological seminaries were established, young men received their training from the older preachers. Many of our most distinguished clergymen still believe that this plan for the education of ministers is a better and more practical one than that which now prevails. Having completed his studies under Rev. Dr. Jacob Miller, a Lutheran divine of eminent abilities, he was licensed June 17, 1829, by the German Evangelical Ministerium of Pennsylvania. His first charge consisted of the congregations at Moselem, Huff's and Longswamp, Berks county, Pa. At different times he also officiated at Jerusalem, Maxatawny, Mertz's, Friedensburg, Oley, in this county, and at Fogelsville, in Lehigh Co., Pa. From the time of his license he lived in Berks. In 1833 he moved to Kutztown, and resided in the borough four years. He now lives in Maxatawny in an elegant mansion, which he built in 1836. During thirty years of his life, he has officiated as a Lutheran clergyman.

Rev. Mr. Roeller is a gentleman of cultured taste, and abounds in theological lore. Even in temper and genial in disposition, he possesses a generous heart which makes a visitor feel at home and happy in his company. We take this opportunity of returning him and



his good wife our thanks for the many acts of kindness we have received at their hands.

(*h.*) B. E. KRAMLICH.—Graduated 1856 in Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, Adams Co., Pa. In 1858 completed his studies in the Theological Seminary of the same place; licensed the same year, at York, by the West Pennsylvania Synod; and ordained at Lebanon, Pa., by the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, he was elected Pastor of the congregations formerly served by Rev. Mr. Roeller, namely:—Moselem, Maxatawny, Rockland, Mertztown, Hereford, Fleetwood, and Trexlertown. In addition to his regular charge he also officiated, at different periods, in Shoemakersville, Mohrsville, and other places. It is a fact worthy of special mention that, in all these congregations, at the time of his election, three votes only were cast against him. During the past sixteen years of his ministry, he has preached about sixteen hundred sermons, officiated at nearly eight hundred funerals, married four hundred and eighty-six couples, baptized nine hundred and thirty persons, and confirmed nine hundred and fifty one. His present charge consists of Trexlertown, Maxatawny, Mertztown, Fleetwood and Rockland. He formerly resided in Kutztown, but a year ago became a citizen of Maxatawny.

Mr. Kramlich is not only an able preacher, but is also one of our most useful inhabitants. When the Keystone Normal enterprise was inaugurated, he was one of the principal agents in pushing it forward to a successful completion. Sometimes as President of the Board of Trustees, and sometimes as Chairman of various Committees, he has always shown a deep interest in the cause of education. His conversational address makes him an agreeable companion; his energetic oratory, a popular preacher; whilst his genial spirit endears him to a large circle of friends. May his shadow never grow less!

(*i.*) ALFRED D. CROLL.—From the "Reading Times and Dispatch," of June 21, 1876, we gather the following information:

"On Monday morning, June 19, 1876, died this much beloved clergyman. He was born in Albany township, but virtually raised in Maxatawny. Having graduated in Penna. College, at Gettysburg, he completed his studies in the Theological Seminary at the same place. Ordained by the old Penna. Synod, he received a call to the DeLong's congregation at Bowers', which he served for a number of years. About ten years ago he became connected with the Eastern Penna. Synod. At the time of his death he was the regular pastor of the following congregations: Lyons, Pleasantville, Millerstown, Lehigh Co.; Mohrsville, and one in Hereford twp. He was afflicted with bronchitis, which terminated finally in consumption. Aged thirty-seven years. At his funeral officiated the Revs. J. F. Reimund of Lebanon, and J. M. Ditzler, of Annville, Pa. His remains were interred in the cemetery attached to the church in Lyons."

## 5. SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

About fifty years ago, under the name of the "Kutztown Sunday

School Union," was organized the first Sunday School. It occupied an independent position. Prior to that time religious instruction was imparted to the young by the preachers, and, during the summer, on the Lord's Day, by the organists who also taught the daily parochial school. In the fatherland it was, and still is the custom, that, on every Sunday afternoon, to the children, assembled in the church, was explained the catechism by the preacher. But, as the pastors here were overburdened with work, it became necessary that what is now known as the Sunday School, should be organized. The opposition to it, which at first was stout, soon gave way. Soon, in addition to the one just mentioned, were established the "German Reformed and Lutheran Sunday School," and the "German Reformed Sunday School." Thus, at one time, three schools vied with one another in training up the children in the way which they sought to go. The last named school having drained the first one named of its members, on April 24, 1868, there was established in place of the "German Reformed and Lutheran Sunday School," an exclusively Lutheran one. Of the latter the first Supt. was E. D. Bieber, who also now fills the same office.

The first Union Sunday School—Reformed and Lutheran,—was organized by Rev. J. S. Herrmann, who also, for a number of years, acted as Supt. Even before he became pastor in Kutztown, he had taken a deep interest in the religious education of the young.

Of those who either superintended or taught Sunday Schools in our borough, we name Augustus F. Boas, Esq., now of Reading, and Cashier of the "Savings Bank in that city, David Neff, Wm. Mason, Miss Ella Davis, now wife of Rev. Henry Miller, a Lutheran preacher, and Miss Mary Miller, now the wife of Dr. Schlough, of South Easton, Pa.;—and last, but by no means least, Mr. John G. Wink, a veteran in the service, who, during a period of fifty years, has, in various ways, been connected with Sunday Schools, and from 1846-1857, presided over the Reformed school of this town.

The second Sunday School Union, of Kutztown, was organized May 26, 1851, by the Evangelical German Methodist Association. Its first Superintendent was Elias Hoch. Its present officers are John G. Wink, Supt., H. S. Mohr, Asst. Supt., Treasurer and Secretary, D. B. Snyder, Librarian, F. Reppert.

Of the German Reformed School, as a separate organization, Allen Hottenstein, Esq., was the first Supt. It is now under the able management of Prof. J. G. Neff, and numbers about 150 scholars.

From the above statement it will be seen that, in the borough, there are now three Sunday Schools, while, in Maxatawny, generally in connection with the churches, similar schools are in successful operation.

## IV. EDUCATIONAL HISTORY.

### 1.—EARLIEST CONDITION AND EFFORTS.

The earliest records agree in testifying that at the masses of the first settlers in the eastern section of Pa. were low in the scale of education and higher culture. In a MSS., dated 1755, in the Franklin Library in Philadelphia, Mr. Samuel Wharton, while expressing his fear of the great evils that might flow from the influence of the Germans at the polls, speaks of their "stubborn genius and ignorance." As an offset to this, we quote the words of Gov. Thomas who, in 1738, writes of the German Palatines, "I believe it may truthfully be said, that the present flourishing condition of this Province, is in a great measure owing to the industry of these people."

Now, whilst we admit that, in higher culture, our German forefathers were in a backward state, we do not admire the cynical and haughty spirit which the first English settlers generally evinced towards them. Indeed, from these comparatively few Englishmen has come down even to our time, that overweening air of superiority which their descendants not unfrequently show to the German population of our day.

Many reasons might be stated to account for the fact that the German settlers were not high up in the scale of literature. In their native land were not yet effaced the traces of the Thirty Years' War, which had changed their country almost into a wilderness. During that unhappy period, men had grown to be so scarce, that the women were compelled to undertake the most crushing employments, such for example, as the shoeing of horses. At a later period French invasions desolated the land, and inflicted on the Palatinate untold miseries. Nor had the German nationality yet come to its bloom. So little interest did the petty sovereigns of a divided Germany take in their subjects, that during our Revolutionary war some of them allowed England to turn their provinces into a recruiting ground, and force unwilling men to cross the Atlantic and fight against us. If in those early days, the German masses had been as well educated at home, as they are in our day, our English colonists would have had no reason for complaint. We risk nothing in asserting that, during the period of emigration, the English masses at home were not higher in general culture, than the German masses in their homes. Even as late as 1841, C. Edward Lester in his "Glory and Shame of England," says, "Show me a very

*learned* man in England, and I will show you some thousands around him to match the spectacle, who cannot read the Bible, nor write their names," and it is a known fact that, now in the year 1876, whilst Germany ranks among the highest in a Common School education, England stands among the lowest. Besides, it must not be forgotten that, as the policy of Queen Anne was to keep her own people at home and to induce strangers from other lands to people her colonies, the ignorant masses of England had no chance to show their want of culture in the New World; whilst of the comparatively few who did come over from England, some sought room for greater liberty of conduct and opinion, but many of them were office-hunters, and aimed simply to increase their possessions. Moreover, from the fact that a new country needs hardy men, whose arms can wield the mattock and the maul, fell the majestic oak and the towering hickory,—and hardy women, whose robust bodies can undergo the pains and fatigues of the family, and bless the world with stalwart citizens,—from this the philosopher of history may perhaps rejoice that sedentary habits, such as an intellectual life begets, had not enervated the great majority of the original settlers.

But if the first records speak of the backward state of the German masses, they also speak very distinctly of the commanding abilities of the German leaders. As an example on the Lutheran side, we cite Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, who came over in 1742. He was well versed in Greek and Hebrew, and spoke English, German, French, Latin, and Swedish. On the Reformed side, we make mention of Revds. George Michael Weiss and John Peter Møller, who came over in 1726—27. Rev. Jedediah Andrews, in a letter dated August 14, 1730, says of the latter, "He is an extraordinary person for sense and learning," and of them both, that they speak Latin as well as we do our vernacular tongue. Nine tenths of the earliest preachers who crossed the Atlantic for these shores, were men who had received a thorough education at home. The grandfather of the Maxatawny Hermanns completed his theology at the University at Halle; the elder Hefnerich and the Hefnersteins, at the University of Heidelberg; and Philip Reinhold Pauli, who came over in 1783, at the Universities of Halle and Leipsig.

How earnestly both Reformed and Lutheran preachers, during the earliest periods, labored to elevate the standard of education; how by letter they importuned their friends in the Fatherland to send on money and works; and how by crossing the ocean, they in person pleaded the cause of their poor brethren in the colonies; how they interested not only influential Germans on the Continent, but Englishmen also of the highest distinction, to establish Societies for the diffusion of knowledge in the New World; how Rev. Mr. Schlatter collected funds in Europe which now form a part of the

endowment of Franklin and Marshall College, at Lancaster: all this and much more we must pass by, and turn our attention to what more directly concerns our own community.

The original founders of the Reformed and Lutheran denominations held that the true idea of education required that the young should be taught not only how to read and write and cipher, but also how to pray, and how to exercise themselves in habits of personal piety. They vehemently protested against the separation of a religious from a secular education, and, if the alternative had been presented, would cheerfully have sacrificed the latter on the altar of the former. From Luther has come down to us the maxim, "*Bene orasse est bene studuisse.*" This adage, in all its applications, may be taken as an epitome of the educational view which controlled the actions of the first German settlers. At home, in the Fatherland, every congregation was regarded as an ecclesiastical corporation, whose duty it was to provide for the training of the young. The pastors, accordingly, established parochial schools, and set over them teachers, who, in addition to the needed secular branches, taught also Christian doctrine, and played the organ during Divine service. Such teachers received not only a stated salary, but also house accommodations for their families and schools. The rich were required to pay a certain sum for the education of their children, while the children of the poor were taught free of charge.

In the earliest efforts for the elevation of the German colonists, these educational views were treated with high regard. In 1751 through the exertions of Mr. Schlatter for the diffusion of knowledge among the Germans, was formed a Society in England. To this His majesty himself subscribed one thousand pounds. Among its rules we find, that the children, English and German, shall be instructed in catechism of sound doctrine approved of by their own parents and ministers, and that the several catechisms now taught among the Calvinists, Lutherans and other protestant denominations will be printed in English and German." Of those schools the Rev. Michael Schlatter, a Reformed preacher, was appointed Visitor or Supervisor.

To these primitive traditions the members of the Union congregation of Kutztown and Maxatawny faithfully adhered. In the Rules which they framed on Nov. 9, 1789, it is stated, that as the education of the young in reading, writing, and other branches, is of the highest importance, there shall be built as soon as possible a schoolhouse; that the schoolhouse shall be located near to the church; that when built, there shall be elected a man who is not only competent to teach and to sing, but also bears a good moral character; that the preachers, elders, and deacons shall have a care that in the school prevails good order, that each child receives proper attention, and that no partiality be shown.

The schoolhouse was built 1804-1805. Its first Trustees were Jacob Levan, Jr., Jacob Kutz, Jr., Henry Heist, Jno. Bieber, Jr. The Trustees had charge of the schoolhouse, and were required to hold quarterly examinations of the pupils, in presence of the teacher, and with the co-operation of the preachers, elders, and deacons. The teacher lived in the building. His duties were to lead the singing in church, to play the organ, to teach the children how to pray, to spell, to read, to write, to sing, to cipher; also, during the summer, on the Sundays when there was no divine service, *Kinderschule zu halten*, and from time to time to confer with the Trustees.

On May 15, 1805, it was resolved, that in the schoolhouse there should be a room for the accommodation of an English teacher; that the following autumn there should be employed one who bore a good character, and who could instruct well in speaking, reading, writing, and ciphering; and that the Trustees shall have a care that there be English teaching at least every winter.

## 2. THE FRANKLIN ACADEMY.

In the educational progress of Kutztown and Maxatawny came a period which deserved special mention. Thus far no provisions had been made for those who deserved to widen their knowledge beyond reading, writing, and ciphering. If the religious leaders of the people had made arrangements to gratify the wish for a more extensive secular education than that originally prescribed by the church rules there is reason to believe that they would have not only retained, but increased their educational influence over the public. This was now beginning to wane. In 1836, there was formed in Kutztown an Association which led to the establishment of the "Franklin Academy." This, of course, stood under the protection of no particular denomination, but of the public in general. In it were taught not only the Rudiments, but also Geography, History, Composition, Declamation, Book-Keeping, Geometry, Surveying, &c. Thus was drawn in this section the first line of separation between secular and religious education, and the first attempt made to withdraw from the clergy the sole direction of the schools. From an advertisement in the "Neutralist", August 21, 1836, by Daniel Bieber, Secretary of the Association, we learn that, in order, to furnish better accommodations, the Association had just erected a new building which would be opened for students on the following September 1; that the number of scholars was limited to thirty three; that no pupil would be received for a less time than six months; and that the terms for this period were ten dollars.

In order to draw the annual appropriation of \$400, which the state offered to an Academy that had on its roll twenty-five students, The Franklin was incorporated in 1838. Its first Trustees were

Daniel B. Kutz, Daniel Bieber, Col. John Wanner, David Kutz, Dr. C. L. Schlemm, David Deisher, and Henry Heffner. Among its teachers were Alex. Ramsey, Rev. Chas. Lukens, Messrs. Murphy, Wanner, Kohler, Hill, Bitler, Salter, and Woodbury. Its first teacher, Alex. Ramsey, emigrated to Minnesota, and in time became Governor of the State, and its representative for several terms in the United States Senate. On invitation of the Keystone Agricultural Society, Senator Ramsey visited Kutztown, October, 1874, and delivered an able and eloquent Address.

### 3. THE COMMON SCHOOL LAW.

This tendency to withdraw education from the supreme control of the clergy was not confined to Kutztown and Maxatawny, but cropped out in every section of our country. It bloomed into ripe fruit in the passage by the Legislature of Pa., April 1, 1834, of the Common School Law. Now began a fierce conflict between the advocates of the educational theory our forefathers brought over from the Fatherland, and the advocates of a purely secular theory. That the child "belongs first of all to God, as its Creator; secondly, to the parents, as being second causes of the child; and thirdly, to the State, as guardian and protector of the temporal interests of the family and society, but to the State only in the way of subordination to parental and divine rights"; that to every religious society belonged the right of prescribing what education should be given to its baptized children; and that parents could not be forced against their consciences to send their children to any school that did not meet with their approval;—this in general was the educational theory that prevailed among our original German settlers. The State now stepped forward and declared that, whilst it pretended not to interfere with the religious freedom of the people, it desired that in every county there should be supported by taxation a system of schools, in which a solid elementary instruction in the secular branches might be imparted to every child in its broad domain.

In the conflict which ensued, the State gained the victory. Under the circumstances, a different result was not to be expected. The descendants of our forefathers were not true to their own principles. They allowed their theory of education to become a dead letter, whilst their religious leaders failed to discern the intellectual wants of the times, and made no provision for the evergrowing desire of the young for a more liberal education than that which mere 'Writing, Reading, and Ciphering,' implied. If both people and preachers had co-operated in the establishment of such schools as would have fairly represented the progress of culture, and met the needs of the hour, there is every reason to believe that the State would have encouraged their efforts, and allowed them full scope for the working out of their educational plans. The time for such

broad action had passed by. Already defeated within their own fortress, through their own supineness and want of discernment, and by reason of their failure to carry out their own system when things were wholly in their own hands, preachers and people went into the battle only to be utterly routed, and driven off the field.

Now came to pass a complete divorce of secular from religious education, and the religious societies no longer held the reins of power over their own children. For some years the battle against the Common School law raged furiously in Berks county. Only the most inveterate prejudice will continue to assert that the people of this county are or ever were opposed to education as such. The passage of the school law suddenly woke them out of their lethargy; and they opened their eyes to see at one full view, as they supposed that the educational views and practices of their fathers, that the ecclesiastical traditions of their past history, that their natural and parental rights, that their view of the Church as a society divinely established for the education of their children, were now seriously threatened. For these reasons they rose up in opposition against the scheme prepared by the state. Justly did the Hon. H. A. Muhlenberg, in a letter to the working men of Philadelphia, dated January 26, 1836, say "The Germans of our State are not opposed to education as such, but only to any system that to them seems to trench on their parental and natural rights." Animated with these feelings, it is not to be wondered at that the people of Kutztown and Maxatawny waged stout war against the School law. At a meeting held in the Court house, in Reading, to consider the School Act, at which twenty-five townships were represented by delegates, but one, Elias Moore, of Caernarvon,—voted to accept it. At an election for School Directors, March 18, 1836, in Kutztown, were chosen Daniel Bieber, Daniel Graff, Daniel B. Kutz, and Jon. S. Grim. These all, as also those selected in adjacent townships, were known to be against the accepting of the School law. At a convention of School Directors in Reading, May 2, 1836, it appeared that, of the 50 Districts in the county, Reading, Womelsdorf, Caernarvon, Robeson, Ruscombmanor, and Union had accepted the Law. Jacob Humbert, who was delegate from Kutztown, voted against accepting it, as also Samuel Fegely, from Maxatawny.

That the best men of Kutztown were alive to the literary interest of this section of the county, is clearly proved by the following interesting fact. There existed in Reading in 1836 a Young Men's Institute. Its Board consisted of George D. B. Keim, Isaac Hiester, Jno. P. Hiester, George M. Keim, Wm. Ermentrout, Sr., and others, who passed a resolution, inviting the several townships of Berks to send two Delegates to a convention to be held in Reading, May 14, 1836. The object of this convention was to establish Lyceums in every district in the county for the purpose of forming cabinets of



native minerals, plants and other productions. At a meeting convened at the house of David Fister, May 5, 1836, to consider this subject, there were appointed to draw up resolutions, John Fister, Dr C. L. Schlemm, Dr Reuben Haines, Alexander Ramsey, Chas. R. Sander, and Jno. Baer. In these were expressed the deepest interest in the progress of the arts and sciences, and Alex. Ramsey and Dr. Haines appointed Delegates to attend the convention in Reading. What came of this movement history has not deigned to transmit to future generations.

In the year 1842 Kutztown accepted the Common School System. On the ground where now stands the present building was erected the first school house by David Levan. On the ruins of this, under the supervision of the Directors, Hon. H. H. Schwartz, Dr. Chas. A. Gerasch, A. Manderbach, Aug. Sprenger and H. F. Bickel, in 1862, at a cost of \$3300.00, was built the house which now ornaments the borough. In it taught, at different periods, J. B. Van Sch-e-z, Wm. Detweir, Jno. G. Wink, Aug. Wink, Dr Ed. Bieber, Wm. Kelley, George Shinn, J. Vansickle, Jno. Humbert, George Hertzell, R. T. Barnville, Jas. M. Gehr, Jacob Humbert, J. K. Steven, G. W. Long, Dan. E. Schoedler, Allen Hottenstein, Lew Wanner, Thos. A. Strasser, P. S. Umbenhauer, Eugene D. Bieber, L. F. Sprenger, Irwin W. Bieber, Zach. C. Hoch, W. W. Kistler, Jas. H. Marx. Of the female teachers we name the Misses Lizzie Gotwaltz, Jennie Beckhardt, Susan Hall, Lizzie Neff, Mary Barclay, Sallie Sprenger, Sallie Strasser, Louisa Mohr, Mary Wink, Annie Knouse.

For the year ending June 1876, the term of instruction was eight months; and the salary of High School teacher, \$55.00, Male Assistants, \$40.00, and the female teacher, \$30.00 each per month. The Centennial teachers are Jas. H. Marx, Esq., Principal, Wm. Traub, 1st assistant, Lafayette Leshner, 2d, assistant, and Miss Annie Knouse, lady teacher. The Centennial Directors are: President, John B. Christman; John Humbert, Esq., Secretary; Henry Biehl, Treasurer; W. Sanders, W. Schoedler, Isaac K. Rahn. For the year ending June 1, 1876, School Finances as follows,—income, \$1544.79, expenditures, \$1477.64, balance in treasury, \$137.05, State appropriation, \$271.66. Number of pupils for 1876, 127 males, 110 females.

In 1852 Maxatawny accepted the Common School System. Its Board was organized May 16, 1852, at the house of David A. Hottenstein. The first Directors were Samuel Kutz, Dan. Hinterleiter, Samuel Bernhart, Peter Deysher, Henry Wagenhorst, and Henry Heffner. At the first examination, held Oct. 8, 1852, the Board was assisted by J. B. VanScheetz. Certificates were granted to Jacob Gehr, Benn. Stimmel, Jno. Humbert, Esq., and Jonas Hoch; on Oct. 23, 1851, to Wm Levan, Isaac Fisher, Saml. Bernet; on Nov. 15, 1852, to Mr. Fisher and Benjamin Dorublaser. At the present

time, in the township are fifteen schools. Number of pupils, 386 males, and 285 females. Finances for the year ending June 1, 1876; income, \$6058.06, including state appropriation of \$497.55; expenditures, \$6058.96; due the Treasurer, Lewis B. Butz, \$6.90. Term of teaching, five months; salary, \$35.00 per month. In 1876, at Lyons, was erected a new school house at a cost of \$1247.00. For the same year were collected for school purposes taxes to the amount of \$2782.35 and for building \$2138.35. The present Directors are: Jon. S. Bieber, Nathan Kemp, Henry Hamsher, Jeff. C. Hoch, Dan. Bieber, Jacob Merkel.

#### 4. FAIRVIEW SEMINARY, AND MAXATAWNY SEMINARY.

Though the Common School system was established in our borough in 1842, there were many of our citizens who desired an education for their children higher than that which it imparted. Accordingly, at the earnest solicitation of Mr. Jno. G. Wink, in 1847, Prof. G. Dering Wolff, of Norristown, Pa., a ripe scholar and an accomplished gentleman, opened a select Academy, which was numerously attended.

Toward the close of 1860, was begun a movement more important in its consequences. The Rev. J. S. Herrmann now applied for a teacher to the Rev. Dr. Gerhart, President of Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., who recommended Prof. H. R. Nicks, A. M., one of the graduates of that Institution. On the 15th of Nov. 1860, this gentleman came to Kutztown, and opened "Fairview Seminary" in the house now occupied as a residence by Col. Thos. D. Fister. His assistant teachers were Jno. Humbert, Esq., and Harry Weand. In the spring of 1863, Mr. Nicks moved his school into the borough. Through the influence of the Professor, who is a man of fine scholarly attainments, some of the citizens of Kutztown and Maxatawny were induced to purchase five acres of land at \$275.00 per acre, and to erect on it a building at a cost of \$4,100.00. This building (50 feet by 40) became in time, as we shall see, the northern wing of the present Keystone State Normal School. In the consummation of this work, Prof. Nicks was greatly assisted by the Rev. Dr. Gerhardt who spent several days in our town and vicinity, visiting our citizens and urging upon them the importance of the undertaking. He, indeed, suggested and mapped the plan on which the wing just referred to was erected. In consideration of the fact that the people of the township had manifested a very deep interest in the success of the project, the name of the school was changed from Fairview to Maxatawny Seminary. Into his new home Prof. Nicks moved in September 1864. His chief assistant now was Prof. S. Transue, A. M., a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College, at the present time, Superintendent of the Public Schools in Williamsport, Pa. During several months of the year 1865, Prof.

John Ermentrout also assisted in teaching in Maxatawny Seminary. His chief object in doing so was to prepare the way for the carrying into effect a project which, as Superintendent of the Common Schools of Berks, he had long entertained. This project was the establishment of a State Normal School in this county for the education of teachers.

#### 5.—KEYSTONE STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

This last named gentleman served three terms, — from 1860—69 as Superintendent of the schools of Berks county. In the discharge of the duties of his office he, in no long time, came to the conclusion that what the common schools most needed was a corps of thoroughly competent teachers, who should be well skilled not only in the branches required by law to be taught, but also in the art of instruction and discipline. To awaken in the citizens of the county a feeling of self-respect, and a clear consciousness of the genius and spiritual excellency that lay dormant and unexercised, as well as to create in them a profound conviction of their duty so to educate themselves as to meet the demands of the age, and to do the part assigned to them in the history of the State; to arouse teachers to the importance of understanding well what they taught and of practicing the best methods of instruction, and to interest the pupils in the studies of the school:—this was the work which the county superintendent tried to do during a period of nine year's official duty. He thought that Almighty God, in the distribution of His favors, had endowed the counties of Eastern Pennsylvania, in many of which the German element is so prominent, with a fair proportion of talent, and with a degree of mental capacity such as would, if fully cultured, place them on an intellectual level with the most advanced sections of the state.

These efforts were not in vain. Everywhere in Berks there arose a demand for better teachers, and in different sections of it, people were willing to embark in any enterprise that promised to improve their schools and elevate the standard of education. A Normal School became thus a necessity—a want of the times. In order to meet it, there was gathered by him, during the summer of 1865, a large number of teachers, for the purpose of Normal instruction. They were convened in Maxatawny Seminary, of which mention has just been made. We may say, that, from the erection of Franklin Academy in 1836, whose first teacher was Ex-United States Senator Alexander Ramsey, to the erection of Maxatawny Seminary in 1864, whose first teacher was Prof. H. R. Nicks, the hard soil was being ploughed up and broken, and the land prepared for him who sowed the seed of the Normal in this particular section. If our readers wish to form a correct idea of the real origin of the Keystone Normal School, they must always bear in mind that, before its erec-

tion, there existed in Kutztown and Maxatawny, at different periods, mere Academies or Seminaries, which were either under the control of a limited number of stockholders, or held as the educational property of individuals. Thus Franklin Academy was in the hands of an "Association;" Fairview Seminary, in the hands of Prof. Nicks; and Maxatawny Seminary, in the hands both of stockholders and Prof. Nicks. The Keystone Normal, as a State Institution, in its character and peculiar design is quite distinct from a mere Academy. How and by whom it came to be located in Maxatawny, and just outside of the line that separates the township from Kutztown, will, we hope, plainly appear in this narrative.

As he was journeying from Lyons to Kutztown, in the discharge of official duty, the Superintendent of the county saw in the distance the building known as Maxatawny Seminary. It now occurred to him that, if the people of this section had taken sufficient interest in the cause of education to erect that building, they might be induced to assist him in carrying out his project of establishing a regular State Normal School for the third Normal District. On consultation with Prof. Nicks, he found that this gentleman favored the project. Now took place in 1865, that gathering in of the teachers of Berks, above referred to, in Maxatawny Seminary, for the purpose of Normal instruction. This was found too small to accommodate the students who flocked thither from every part of the county, and from adjacent districts. The success of this movement inspired in the people of Kutztown and Maxatawny a determination to erect such buildings as the school law requires, and to establish a regular Normal School for the Third Normal District of Pennsylvania. To the generous and enterprising citizens of this section of the county belongs the honor of having provided the "Material means," which were needed to purchase grounds and put up the necessary buildings.

Maxatawny Seminary which was started as a private enterprise now disappeared. For the furniture with which Prof. Nicks had provided it, and for any necessary improvements he had made, he was compensated. Its stock, building and grounds were transferred to a new Board of Trustees, who now purchased five additional acres of land, and began to procure subscription with which to erect what is now known as the Keystone State Normal School. Within a year's time to the building formerly known as Maxatawny seminary, were added a centre building, 100 feet by 40 ft. and two wings each 50 ft. by 40 ft.

We prefer now to present to our readers a few extracts from the "History of the Keystone State Normal," prepared for the "Centennial Celebration," now being held in Philadelphia. It was compiled by Richard R. Koch, who at this time is one of the Professors in the

Department of Mathematics, in this Institution, and one of its earliest graduates. He writes:

"The individual who first conceived, suggested, and urged the erection of a Normal School at Kutztown, was Prof. John S. Ermentrout, then Superintendent of Common Schools in Berks Co. The Hon. H. H. Schwartz, a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., procured the architectural design. He, Profs. Nicks and Ermentrout, and the Rev. B. E. Kranlich, deserve great credit for the zeal with which they encouraged and helped on the great work to its final completion."

"The corner-stone was laid Sept. 17, 1865, by the County Superintendent of Berks; and addresses delivered by Hon. J. Lawrence Getz, William Rosenthal, Esq., Hon. Daniel Ermentrout, Llewellyn Wanner, Esq., and Prof. Albert N. Raub.

On September 13th, 1866, the school was recognized by the State Superintendent, Hon. Chas. R. Coburn and the Committee of Inspection, as the State Normal School for the Third District, which embraces the counties of Berks, Schuylkill, and Lehigh. The Inspectors were the Hons. W. Worthington, G. Landon, S. Elliott, Thad. Banks, and the County Superintendents, John S. Ermentrout of Berks, Jesse Newlin of Schuylkill, and E. J. Young, of Lehigh."

"On Sept. 15, 1866, it was formally dedicated; and addresses delivered by E. W. Hutter, D. D., Rev. S. K. Brobst, Rev. Mr. Lampe and Jesse Newlin."

The first Principal of the Keystone Normal was Jno. S. Ermentrout, A. M., Professor of Mental and Moral Science, and of Theory and Practice of Teaching. From 1866-1871, he discharged the duties of this position. From the fact that, during the first year of the existence of the Normal, were enrolled three hundred eighteen students, our readers can infer that the hopes of the Trustees were crowned with great success.

During the years 1872 and 1874, the gentleman just named, taught the Greek language in St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, at Overbrook, Montgomery Co., Pa. In 1874 he was recalled to the Keystone Normal as Professor of Mental Science and Belles Letters. On Monday evening, August 3, 1874, was delivered his Inaugural. The subject of the Address was, "Human Acts and their Value." At the same time also, were inaugurated Hudson A. Wood, A. M., as Professor of Higher Mathematics, and U. P. Heilman, as Professor of History and Physical Geography.

During the first year of his administration as Principal, were employed the following teachers: H. R. Nicks, A. M., Associate Principal, and Prof. of Mathematics and Physics; Albert N. Raub, A. M., of English Language and Literature, and Vocal Music; Saml. Transeau, A. M., of Ancient Languages and History; Edward T. Burgan, M. E., Superintendent of Model School; Rev. G. F. Spieker, of German Language and Literature; Lether Trexler, M. D., of Anatomy, Physiology, and Hygiene; Miss Julia E. Ballard, M. L. of Instrumental Music, French, Painting and Drawing; Mary

Morrison, of Reading and Geography ; P. S. Umbenhauer, Pupil Assistant.

Of these Miss Mary Morrison and P. S. Umbenhauer are deceased. The former was a most excellent teacher, and a lady of high moral character ; while of the latter those who knew him will agree in testifying that he was endowed with a mind of uncommon strength, as well as with a disposition that endeared him to all who had enjoyed the privilege of his acquaintance.

The Board of Trustees elected Rev. A. R. Horne, A. M., as the successor of Jno. S. Ermentrout. The new Principal not being able to enter immediately upon his duties, the reins of power were placed into the hands of Prof. N. C. Schaeffer, A. M. From 1871-72, this gentleman discharged the office of Acting Principal with great success, and won for himself a high reputation for executive ability. During the administration of the first Principal he filled, from 1868-69, the professorship of Ancient Languages and History, and, under Prof. Horne, from 1872-73, that of Mathematics. In 1873 he went to Europe. Having completed a two years' course of Theology at the Universities in Berlin, Tuebingen and Leipzig, he returned to his native land. He now became Professor of Ancient Languages in Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa. Ordained a German Reformed minister on Christmas of the year 1875, he also officiates as one of the Associate Pastors connected with the Chapel of that College.

Prof. Schaeffer belongs to a family which may be taken as a fair representative of the German population that adorns Berks county. The forefathers of his parents were among the earliest settlers of Maxatawny ; and it may be historically interesting to know that his great-great-grand-father, on the side of his mother, who is a daughter of Solomon Christ, was murdered by the Indians. It is also worthy of mention that his brother William, after having graduated at Lancaster, in 1874, took charge of a German Reformed congregation in Waynesboro, Franklin county, Pa. On the 22d of June, 1876, he was elected to the Professorship of Ancient Languages in the Keystone Normal, and will enter upon his duties the coming month of August. Another brother, Nicholas, is now on the eve of graduating at Lancaster, and intends studying law.

In March, 1872, Professor Horne appeared at the Keystone Normal and assumed the purple.

Immediately after his graduation in Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, this gentleman established a Normal School in Quakertown, Bucks county, Pa. Ordained as a Lutheran clergyman, he also preached in this place. In 1864 he took charge of a congregation in Williamsport, Pa., and served as Superintendent of its Public Schools. Thus it was that Prof. Horne went through a preparatory training for the great work he was called upon to shoulder in the

Keystone Normal. He is in full sympathy with the German element, and understands the wants and wishes of our people. As a preacher he is distinguished for impressive oratory, and as a Principal, not only for his fitness for the position, but also for the intense zeal and industry with which he labors to advance the interests of the School. Nor is his pen idle. As already stated, during the last ten years he has issued an educational paper; and, for the use of the students, lately published a Compend of Botany, and a German Manual, both of which met with a ready sale. Under his administration the Keystone has been eminently successful.

The present Board of Instruction is as follows:

Rev. A. R. Horne, A. M., Principal, and Professor of Theory and Practice of Teaching, and German; Hudson A. Wood, A. M., Professor of Higher Mathematics; J. S. Ermentrout, A. M., Professor of Mental Science and Belles Lettres; Jairus G. Neff, M. S., Professor of English Language and Literature; G. Dickie Gurley, A. B., Professor of Ancient and Modern Languages; F. K. Berndt, M. S., Superintendent of Model School; Richard H. Koch, M. E., Professor of Mathematics and Constitution of the United States; J. J. Hottenstein, B. E., Professor of Book-keeping and Penmanship; Miss Rosabelle Myers, Teacher of Mental Arithmetic and Geography; Miss Harriet B. Swineford, Teacher of Reading, Grammar and Physiology; George C. Young, Professor of Instrumental and Vocal Music; Miss Julia R. Long, Teacher of Drawing, Sketching, and French.

In the early part of this school year, 1875-76, Rev. H. A. Curran, A. M., taught the Languages. Having accepted a position in the Normal School at West Chester, Pa., he was succeeded by G. Dickie Gurley, A. B., a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College. Prof. Gurley delivered his Inaugural on January 3, 1876. On this occasion Mr. F. K. Flood, M. E., of Maxatawny, responded on behalf of the students, and Prof. Horne, of the Faculty. Mr. Gurley discharged the duties of his office with great ability, and retired in order to enter upon the ministry as a German Reformed preacher.

One of the most interesting events in the history of the Normal is its Annual Commencement. A brief account of that held June 22, 1876, will give our future friends of 1976 an idea of their general nature. It began with a Baccalaureate Sermon by the Principal, on the preceding Sunday evening, from the text in Luke xvi, 19-21. On Tuesday evening was delivered an address by Rev. Dr. E. V. Gerhart, of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster. On Wednesday took place the "Model School Reunion and Alumni." Before this association were pronounced an oration, "The Teacher's Ideal," by Rev. D. A. Medlar, M. E., of Cressona, Pa., an Essay, "Theory versus Practice," by Miss Sallie E. Rhoads, M. E., of Lock Haven, Pa., an Alumni Essay, "Development of Character in Children,"

by Miss Clara J. Mohr, B. E., of Kutztown, and the Alumni Oration, "History and Prospects of our Republic," by Prof. L. F. Sprenger, M. E., A. M. On Thursday took place the graduation of the Centennial Class. It numbered twenty-four; twenty-three of them received Elementary Diplomas, and one the Scientific Diploma. Three State Teacher's Diplomas were conferred, and fifteen were crowned with the Master Degree. The Ringgold Band of Reading, which the New York *Herald* pronounces to be the third best band in the United States, furnished the music.

The Literary Societies connected with the Normal assist greatly in the progress and culture of the students. In the fall of 1865 there existed one Society only—the Philomathean. In September of the same year from this went forth the Messrs. S. A. Baer, J. W. Brossman, P. A. Umbenhauer, E. C. Haberaeker, M. J. Kramlich, Major W. S. Guinther, James Conrad, and founded the Kalliothymian, which, in April, 1867, became the Keystone Society. The first President of the Philomathean was Chas. Hinterleiter; the first Secretary, S. A. Baer, and Treasurer, W. Wiand. Among its earliest members were Prof. N. A. Schaeffer, F. P. Bender, G. Heffner, B. Weiss. Its present officers are: H. F. Reiter, President; Miss Lizzie Miller, Censor; Miss Virgie C. Praetorius, Recording Secretary; and of the Keystone: C. E. Hindenach, President; H. J. Reinhardt, Censor; Ella Miller, Recording Secretary.

The first President of the Kalliothymian was S. A. Baer. This gentleman now fills the very honorable position of Superintendent of Common Schools of Berks county. About two and a half miles west of Kutztown, in Greenwich townships was he born. His great great-grandfather, Johannes Baer, an immigrant from the Palatinate, settled in Weissenburg, Lehigh Co., Pa., in 1728, and his grandfather John Adam Bear, moved to Maxatawny in 1812. Having begun his studies in Maxatawny Seminary, he continued them in the Keystone Normal School, and completed them by graduating in 1869 in Franklin and Marshall College. The greater part of his life has been devoted to teaching. He obtained his first certificate as a teacher from Supt. Jno. S. Ermentrout, and taught a common school in Maxatawny. Subsequently for two years, he filled in the Keystone Normal School the Professorship of Ancient Languages and History. Moving to Lehighton he took charge of its High school; and, at a later date, he presided over that in Ashland, Pa. Returning to Berks he became Principal of the Oley Academy, in Friedensburg. On June 7, 1875, after having been elected to the Superintendency of Public Schools, he received his commission from the Department at Harrisburg. Mr. Baer is fully qualified for the position he now holds, and will, we hope always prove true to the German element of the county he represents.

That the Normal school has been a most efficient agent in eliciting



the talents of this section of the county, is beyond dispute. In proof of this we give the names of residents who, since its organization, have graduated within its halls. In 1868 received Diplomas J. H. Marx, L. F. Sprenger, George H. Heffner; in '69, H. R. Carl, A. M. Klein, J. C. Neff, Jacob G. Neff; in '70, E. D. Bieber, A. G. Dewalt, Alesia M. Helfrich, Z. C. Hoch, J. H. VanScheetz; in '71, T. C. Mertz, Louisa M. Mohr, D. F. Smith; in '73, E. H. Schwoyer; in '74, C. F. Dry, I. W. Gauker, W. J. Bieber; in '75, Ellen Christ (died before graduating), W. O. Miller, Clara J. Mohr, F. K. Flood, J. J. Hottenstein, W. H. Traub; in '76, Hannah Grim, Ida Hottenstein, Beccie Leibensperger, F. Y. Weidenhammer.

Of 110 Normal Graduates, 31 belong to this section of the county.

Of the following persons graduated in Colleges: in Franklin and Marshall, the Hons. Joel B. Wanner, Amos B. Wanner, and H. H. Schwartz; also Daniel E. Schoedler, in 1863, Lew. Wanner, in '64; P. D. Wanner, in '65, I. W. Bieber and N. C. Schaeffer, in '67; O. C. Herman and S. A. Baer, in '69; W. C. Schaeffer and I. DeLong; in '71; D. N. Schaeffer and Ambrose Herrmann, in '73;—in Lafayette College, L. F. Springer and J. P. Schaeffer, in '73; A. G. Dewalt, in '74; Z. C. Hoch, in '75;—in Muhlenberg, W. J. Bieber, in '76, M. Y. Henninger and W. Andres.

As Graduates in Medical Colleges, from this section, we name David Hottenstein, Levi Thompson, Charles Schlemm, C. H. Wanner, J. S. Trexler, W. S. Bieber, Edward Hottenstein, W. Reichard, Thos. Strasser, L. Bieber, A. C. Hottenstein, C. Wanner, E. H. Bieber, W. Reber, T. T. Thompson.

As Graduates in Female Colleges: the Misses A. M. Helfrich, Annie Herman, Aggie Herman.

#### 6.—SOME INTERESTING FACTS.

1.—Account of monies received for the first building of the Maxatawny Seminary Association.

Jacob Sunday and G. Bieber, each \$500; C. A. Gerasch, D. H. Hottenstein, Lizzie E. Bieber, E. Butz, Susannah Hottenstein, Solomon Christ, each \$300; D. H. Hottenstein, Jon. S. Bieber, Isaac Roeller, B. E. Kraulich, C. A. Gerasch, A. R. Nicks, E. Butz, Susannah Hottenstein, Wm. Hottenstein, G. Dietrich, Sol. Christ, David Schaeffer, J. D. Wanner, Jno. Kieffer, John Rahn, each \$200; H. R. Nicks, \$150; Ulrich Miller, David Fister, G. Bieber, George Kutz, D. H. Hottenstein, each \$100; H. R. Nicks, \$50. Total, \$6500.00.

2.—Amount of money received for stock subscribed for the Keystone Normal School:—

Lewis K. Hottenstein, and Susannah Hottenstein, each \$1200. G. Bieber, D. H. Hottenstein, Dr. E. Hottenstein, each \$1000. Jonas Miller, Jon. Bieber, Sr., Jacob Sunday, Dr. C. A. Gerasch, Dav. S. Levan, Horrace Trexler, each \$500; David Fister, \$400; David

Schaeffer, S. Bernhardt, A. Stein, D. Melot, D. Kemp, E. Butz, Jonathan S. Bieber, each \$300; Dan. Dietrich, Dan. Christ, Dr. L. Thompson, Joel Hoch, W. W. Kemp, W. DeTurk, C. F. Kutz, Jas. Weiler, Jacob Grim, A. C. Kieffer, Hon. J. G. Jones, David Levan, each \$200; Henry Williams, Jon. Bieber, H. Stein, Hon. Jno. H. Fogel, S. H. Lease, Dan. Clader, Hon. H. H. Schwartz, Jno. S. Ermentrout, D. Sharadin, John Rahn, Jr., Mrs. M. J. Rahn, D. L. Gable, E. DeTurk, Jno. Herbine, Jac. F. Kutz, David Kemp, Jonas Hoch, Ulrich Miller, Jos. Stichter, Fred Lauer, Dr. D. Luther, D. L. Wenrich, H. Bushong, Isaac Eckert, Dr. L. Trexler, Jonas Ritter, J. Nich. Hunter, Jas. Bushong, W. B. Bensinger, J. Moyer, W. B. Fogel, M. Arnold, S. W. Arnold, A. N. Raub, J. C. Wanner, John Ebner, Isaac McHose, Ed. Clymer, Rich. Dunkel, O. Leshner, Nathan Levan, Jon. B. Grim, each \$100.—Total, \$18,300.

These statements are taken from the Treasurer's Book, and represent the original stockholders.

3.—First Board of Trustees,—L. K. Hottenstein, Pres., David H. Hottenstein, Sec., Lesh. Trexler, M. D., President of the Board of Stockholders, Jonas Hoch, Secretary of Board of Stockholders. Chas. Gerasch, M. D. Treasurer; H. Bushong, E. Butz, D. Dietrich, John S. Ermentrout, D. Fister, Hon. Jno. H. Fogel, Edward Hottenstein, M. D., Hon. J. Glancy Jones, Rev. B. E. Kramlich, D. Luther, M. D., J. Miller, H. R. Nicks, Hon. H. H. Schwartz, D. Schaeffer, A. Stein, J. D. Wanner, Esq.

3.—Present Board of Trustees: Hon. H. H. Schwartz, President; A. J. Fogel, Secretary; D. H. Hottenstein, President of Stockholders; Jonas Hoch, Secretary of Stockholders; John S. Dunkle, Treasurer; D. Schaeffer, G. Bieber, C. A. Gerasch, M. D., Rev. B. E. Kramlich, Daniel Q. Hottenstein, Daniel Dietrich, Fred. Lauer, Ulrich Miller. Representing the State: Col. T. D. Fister, G. J. Kutz, Rev. S. K. Brobst, J. L. Nutting, John G. Wink, Jon. S. Bieber.

It is worthy of note that some of these gentlemen have for many years been members of the Board; as, for instance, Daniel Dietrich and Adam Stein, who are prominent citizens of Greenwich township. Both of them are large land-holders, and furnish the community with the purest rye, for medicinal and other purposes. Mr. Dietrich also does an extensive business as a miller. Jonathan S. Bieber, of Maxatawny, lives on a splendid farm, and always finds time to woo the Muses of the Keystone.

4.—Number of Students:—In 1866-67, 318; 1867-68, 536; 1868-69, 539; 1869-70, 562; 1870-71, 330; 1871-72, 338; 1872-73, 484; 1873-74, 662; 1874-75, 516; 1875-76, 469. Total, 4,774.

5.—Number of Graduates:—In Scientific Course, in 1871, 4, in 1874, 5, in 1876, 1; in Elementary, in 1868, 6, in 1869, 11, in 1870, 13, in 1871, 6, in 1872, 3, in 1873, 4, in 1874, 18, in 1875, 20, in 1876, 23. Total, 110.

6.—Treasurers:—Dr. C. A. Gerasch, from 1865 to 1870; Dr. Edward

Hottenstein, from 1870 to 1871; Jon. Biehl, from 1871 to 1872; Dr. J. S. Trexler, from 1872 to 1873. Our present efficient and worthy Treasurer is John S. Dunkle, who took charge of the books in 1873.

7.—Stewards, at different periods:—Augustus Hottenstein, Jon. Biehl, Isaac Wentzell, Nathan Levan. This last named gentleman is still in office; a veteran in the service; *primus inter pares*.

8.—Libraries:—Nearly 2,000 volumes.

9.—Philosophical Apparatus:—Its original cost, \$1,000.00.

10.—Contractors of the Keystone Building:—Messrs. Garst and Mast, of Reading, Pa.

11.—Additional Building:—That to the north of the southern wing, put up in 1872 for the accommodation of students.

12.—Whole cost of buildings and grounds estimated at \$85,000.00.

13.—Among the earliest and most distinguished Professors of the Keystone were Eli G. Schwartz, Esq., who graduated in Franklin and Marshall College, and now ranks among the first lawyers at the Allentown bar; H. W. Super, D. D., who completed his literary and theological studies in the Reformed institutions at Mercersburg, Pa., and is now the Vice President of Ursinus College, Collegeville, Pa.; Samuel Transean, A. M., who is now Superintendent of Common Schools in Williamsport, Pa.; and A. N. Raub, A. M., who now presides over the Public Schools of Lock Haven, Pa.

14.—The first Superintendent of the Keystone Model School was Allen Hottenstein, Esq., who is now practicing law successfully in Scranton, Pa. Of the other Superintendents we name James H. Marx, Esq., and F. K. Berndt. Both gentlemen are graduates of the Normal, and taught in it with marked success. The former was quite recently clothed with the honors of an Esquire, and will soon be admitted to the bar; the latter continues to preside over the Model Department.

15.—We must not forget to mention the Rev. Daniel Schoedler, A. M., who is now Principal of the Oley Academy, Berks county, Pa. Kutztown is his native place. His abiding interest in the educational progress of Eastern Pa. has made his name a familiar one to every instructor of youth.

16.—Among the successful preachers of Maxatawny we mention the Rev. D. K. Humbert, who preaches at De Long's, Hill's, Lobach's, and other Churches.

## V. CONCLUSION.

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Early in the year 1876 were sounding over the whole country proclamations from President Grant and John F. Hartranft, Governor of Pennsylvania, inviting and urging the people to gird up their loins for a worthy celebration of the Great Centennial of American Independence. Among other recommendations, they suggested that in every section of the land special pains be taken to gather in one the scattered facts of its past history, put them in print, and transmit them to the people of 1976.

Scarce had this call fallen upon our ears when, in Kutztown and its vicinity, was heard the piercing fife and the rolling drum. In obedience to an invitation from Mr. S. S. Schmehl, our efficient Chief Burgess, on May, 13, 1876, at 7 o'clock of the evening, in order to make preparations for doing proper homage to the coming Fourth of July, assembled our citizens in the main square of the borough. From the balcony attached to the hotel of our venerable friend, Mr. Chas. Kutz, who, though sixty-four years old, now renewed his youth, eloquent addresses were delivered by S. S. Schmehl, the Hon. H. H. Schwartz, and Messrs. John G. Wink, Conrad Gehring and Col. Thos. D. Fister.

A Centennial Association was formed. The following officers were elected at the meeting: President, S. S. Schmehl, Chief Burgess; Vice President, Conrad Gehring; Secretaries, Prof. J. H. Marx, Dr. L. C. Berkemeyer; Treasurer, Col. Thos. D. Fister.

The president appointed the following Executive Committee: John G. Wink, Charles Miller, Peter Krause, A. J. Fogel, Eldridge Zimmerman, John S. Dunkle, Prof. S. A. Baer, Wm. C. Dietrich, D. F. Wagner, Walter B. Bieber, D. Q. Hottenstein, Prof. A. R. Horne, Rev. B. E. Kramlich.

We must not forget to add that the success of our Centennial Celebration is due, in a great degree, to the energetic labors of our Chief Burgess, and to the wise, practical judgment of Dr. L. C. Berkemeyer.

One of the most important features of the celebration will be the erection of a monument on the grounds of the Keystone State Normal School. The base is a granite stone, weighing two tons and a half. On this rests an octagon die which supports an octagon spire, both of Italian marble. On the spire is an octagon cap, surmounted

with an eagle. The whole work reflects great credit on the sculptor, Mr. Philip Wentz, who lives in the borough. It costs \$250.00. Of this Mr. Wentz himself subscribed \$75.; the remaining sum was collected in town and Normal by Mrs. Dr. Chas. H. Wanner, and the Misses Alesa Helfrich and Harriet B. Swineford. On the four larger sides of the die are inscribed the following mottos, which were selected by a Committee consisting of Rev. Prof. Horne, Prof. Jno. S. Ermentrout and Supt. S. B. Baer;—

On the north side,—"Unser Frei Schul Wesakunt fun da Pean silfownish Deitslia har. Der Goyaner Wolf hat's geplamt un g'start un der Ritner un der Shunk Len's ausg'fuehrt"; on the south, "Nec scire fas est omnia;" on the east, "We Gott mit unsern Vaetern war, so sei er auch mit uns;" on the West, "Virtue, Liberty and Independence." The following articles will be deposited in that part of the monument on which rests the spire:—The history of Kutztown and Maxatawny, the latest newspapers of the county, ancient coins, almanacs and coins of 1876, a catalogue of the Normal for 1876, the names of contributors to the monument, and the late Census of Kutztown, continental scrip, and a silver quarter dated 1776, donated by A. J. Fogel. It is intended, that Prof. Jno. S. Ermentrout shall deposit these articles, and deliver an appropriate address; that the chairman of the Monumental Committee, Supt. S. A. Baer, who shall present the monument to the Chief Burgess, of the borough, and the Chief Burgess to the Trustees of the Keystone Normal School, who shall be represented in a speech by their President, the Hon. H. H. Schwartz.

To-morrow will be a great day for Kutztown and vicinity. Before sunrise cannons will send their thunders over mountain, hill and dale. By Prof. Horne, early in the morning, will be preached a sermon in the Keystone Normal Chapel. In a grand parade will appear all the civic and military organizations of the borough and adjacent country. Thirteen young ladies will represent the Original States, and thirty-eight, with flags, the States of our Union, all of them dressed in white. Military companies, bands, Sunday Schools, Town Council, lodges, surviving soldiers of the war of 1812, of the Mexican, and our late Civil War, together with visitors from every section of the county, will swell the procession. Mr. Albert A. Adam, dressed in Continental costume, will personate General Washington, and Mrs. H. M. Cloud, Martha Washington. Under the direction of Dr. J. S. Trexler as Chief Marshall, the parade will wind its way through the streets of the borough, and terminate in Kemp's woods. Here will take place the following exercises:—The oration of the day, by the Hon. Judge A. S. Sassaman; a Pennsylvania German Poem, by Prof. M. C. Henninger, of Allentown, and the reading of this Historical Sketch by Prof. John S. Ermentrout.

With this general description of the festivities that will enliven the Centennial Fourth of July, we close our narrative. The work imposed on us by the "Centennial Association," is now completed. This sketch ought to have been drawn by an abler pen ; but, though unworthy of its subject, we hope that, when the men and women of 1976, who shall inhabit Kutztown and Maxatawny, shall read its pages, they may find in them some sources of profit and delight.





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